

The Supplement to the Workshop Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold was held on Monday, May 17, 2010 at 7:00 PM in the Municipal Building.

Roll Call

PRESENT	MAYOR MICHAEL WILSON
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN MICHAEL DI BENEDETTO
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN KEVIN KANE
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN JOHN NEWMAN
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN GEORGE SCHNURR
PRESENT	COUNCILWOMAN SHARON SHUTZER
PRESENT	COUNCILMAN JAYE SIMS

Councilwoman Shutzer offered a motion to accept the minutes from Executive Sessions January 19, 2010; March 15, 2010; April 5, 2010 and Regular Meeting May 3, 2010, seconded by Councilman Sims.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Wilson declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Wilson stated he was going to skip around the Agenda and do the school board resolutions first.

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 12 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Determining Amount to be Raised by Taxation for Local School Purposes for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.”

Councilman Sims offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Kane:

RESOLUTION DETERMINING AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR LOCAL SCHOOL PURPOSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2010 TO JUNE 30, 2011.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Wilson declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Wilson congratulated the Freehold Borough School Board members for working closely with the governing body and being able to work out an amicable solution to a problem that neither one of them would like to face. Mayor Wilson thanked the school board for their cooperation.

Councilwoman Shutzer congratulated the Board of Education and most especially thanked the teachers for taking this stand at a very nasty time when it appears, not from your Board of Education, but from a higher level that they have become the scapegoats.

Mayor Wilson read a letter from our Freehold Borough High School Representative, Heshy Moses,

“Dear Mayor and Council,

I am sorry that I could not be with you tonight; I had to be at the Freehold Regional High School Board of Education meeting. However, Jaye promised that he would relay my message to you. Most of you know me because I taught you or your kids, coached you or your kids, or in the case of Mayor Wilson, we played softball together in the 1970’s. Tonight I am not speaking as the Vice President of the Freehold Regional High School District Board of Education, nor as an ex-teacher of 35 years at the Freehold Borough High School, nor as an ex-coach of 34 years, but just as a person who cares about kids and the Freehold Borough High School. \$4.5 million dollars in cuts may not seem like a big cut for this high school district but when you add it to the \$13.5 million dollars we have already lost in State aid for next year, it becomes a devastating blow to the Borough High School and the other high schools in the district. Numbers like \$4.5 million dollars in cuts is just a euphemism for what really will happen.

1. 35-40 students in a class.
2. No freshman sports and in some cases a sport will be wiped out. i.e. bowling or swimming.
3. No athletic trainers, no substance abuse counselors, fewer guidance counselors, fewer teachers, no field trips, and the list just goes on and on.

You and I both know that many administrators and teachers will be hurt by these cuts, however, many students and student athletes will be hurt, as well. Kids should never be acceptable collateral damage. Thank you for taking the time to listen and just maybe even rethink your added cuts.

Sincerely,
Heshy Moses.”

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 13 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Certifying the Freehold Regional High School District Board of Education 2010-2011 School Budget.”

Councilman Kane offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Shutzer:

RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE FREEHOLD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION 2010-2011 SCHOOL BUDGET.

On roll call, Council Members Kane and Shutzer voted its adoption; Councilman Newman opposed; Councilman DiBenedetto, Councilman Schnurr and Councilman Sims abstained; absent none. Mayor Wilson declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Wilson read Item 5 on the Agenda as follows:

“Proclamation of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Declaring the Month of June Freehold First Aid Fund Drive Month.”

Mayor Wilson read and presented the proclamation to Bill Madden.

Bill Madden stated the month of June is very important to the First Aid and Emergency Squad. He stated last year the squad put two new ambulances in service and they still need to be paid for. Last year the first aid squad sent out over 15,000 letters asking for support and received only 21% return. He urged everyone to donate and stated the squad is always looking for volunteers.

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 6 on the Agenda as follows:

“Second Reading and Public Hearing: Ordinance #2010/9 of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, Amending Chapter 8.56 (Board of Health Regulations), Article 7 (Retail Food Establishments) of the Revised General Ordinances.”

Mayor Wilson opened the meeting to the public.

There was no public comment.

Councilman Kane offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Sims:

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Wilson declared the motion adopted.

Councilman Kane offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Sims:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that an Ordinance entitled “ORDINANCE #2010/9 OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 8.56 (BOARD OF HEALTH REGULATIONS), ARTICLE 7 (RETAIL FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS) OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES,” be, and same is hereby adopted on second reading.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Wilson declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 7 on the Agenda as follows:

“Introduction of and Authorization to Publish Ordinance #2010/10 Amending Chapter 2.48.090 (Fire Department-Junior Firefighter Auxiliary) of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Freehold.”

Councilwoman Shutzer offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE #2010/10 AMENDING CHAPTER 2.48.090 (FIRE DEPARTMENT-JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER AUXILIARY) OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD" be, and same is hereby approved on first reading; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk be and she is hereby authorized to publish said Ordinance in the Asbury Park Press and that same shall be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting held on June 7, 2010 and that during the week of said meeting copies of the Ordinance shall be made available at the Clerk's office to members of the general public who shall request same.

Councilman DiBenedetto thanked Chris Guy and all of the members of the fire department who helped implement this program which includes teenagers from 15-18 years of age.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Wilson declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 8 on the Agenda as follows:

"Introduction of and Authorization to Publish Ordinance #2010/11 Amending Chapter 10 (Vehicles and Traffic) and Chapter 12 (Streets, Sidewalks and Public Places), of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Freehold."

Councilman DiBenedetto offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Kane:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold that an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE #2010/11 AMENDING CHAPTER 10 (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC) AND CHAPTER 12 (STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND PUBLIC PLACES), OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD" be, and same is hereby approved on first reading; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk be and she is hereby authorized to publish said Ordinance in the Asbury Park Press and that same shall be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting held on June 7, 2010 and that during the week of said meeting copies of the Ordinance shall be made available at the Clerk's office to members of the general public who shall request same.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Wilson declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 9 on the Agenda as follows:

"Resolution Authorizing an Interlocal Services Agreement with the County of Monmouth for Emergency Telecommunications Services (Fire)."

Councilman Kane offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Shutzer:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH FOR EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES (FIRE).

Mayor Wilson stated this is the 911 fire agreement with Monmouth County and it will be in place on or before July 1, 2010.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Wilson declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 10 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Authorizing the Purchase and Installation of a Fuel Management System.”

Councilman Kane offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Shutzer:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A FUEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Wilson declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 11 on the Agenda as follows

“Resolution Authorizing the Purchase and Installation of Fire Radio Communications Equipment.”

Councilwoman Shutzer offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Kane:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF FIRE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Wilson declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 14 on the Agenda as follows:

“Amended Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Approving Subordination of Mortgage Given to Borough of Freehold Housing Rehabilitation Program Concerning RCA Case Number 58.”

Councilwoman Shutzer offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto:

AMENDED RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH FREEHOLD APPROVING SUBORDINATION OF MORTGAGE GIVEN TO BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM CONCERNING RCA CASE NUMBER 58.

On roll call, Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Wilson declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 15 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Authorizing Voiding or Dismissal of Parking Tickets in County Owned Parking Lot.”

Councilman Kane offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Sims:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING VOIDING OR DISMISSAL OF PARKING TICKETS IN COUNTY OWNED PARKING LOT.

Ms. Higgins explained the reason the Borough is dismissing these tickets is because the Borough does not have jurisdiction over this parking lot.

On roll call, Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Wilson declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 16 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Confirming Personnel Action:

- a. **Retirement of Nancy Forman, Chief Financial Officer and Tax Collector, effective June 1, 2010.”**

Councilwoman Shutzer offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman DiBenedetto:

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PERSONNEL ACTION 16A.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated this resignation is taken with regret. She stated Ms. Forman has been a fine, loyal employee of this Borough for a very long time. We will miss her and wish her well.

Mr. Bellina stated he has known Ms. Forman for over ten years and she is a terrific employee and he hopes she is blessed with many years of retirement.

Mayor Wilson stated that Ms. Forman has been around longer than me. She has been a great, dedicated employee who is going to be missed.

On roll call, Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Wilson declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 17 on the Agenda as follows:

“Resolution Approving the Following Applications:

- a. **Bingo License #1-09, St. Rose of Lima Church, Year Round on Mondays, 7:30 PM – 10:00 PM, 51. Lincoln Place.**
- b. **Bingo License #2-09, St. Rose of Lima PTA, Year Round on Saturdays, 10:30 PM – 12:00 AM, 51 Lincoln Place.**
- c. **Raffle License #8-10, Howell Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation, 10/22/10 at 10:00 PM, held at the American Hotel.**
- d. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Bradford K. Graves, II, Freehold.**
- e. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Michael P. Fennen, Jackson.**
- f. **Temporary Taxi Driver License, Vikam Thapa, Iselin.”**

Councilman Sims offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Shutzer:

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS 17A THROUGH 17F.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Wilson declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 18 on the Agenda as follows:

“Approval of Bills.”

Councilman Kane offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Shutzer:

BE IT RESOLVED that the bills from May 17, 2010 on the attached list in the amount of \$763,697.50 be paid as presented.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Schnurr, Shutzer, Shutzer and Sims voted its adoption; opposed none; abstain none; absent none. Mayor Wilson declared the motion adopted.

Mayor Wilson asked the council for their comments.

Councilman Schnurr stated that even though I voted yes on the Freehold Borough School District budget, a lot of what we do up here is the art of compromise. He stated between our municipal budget and my vote on the Freehold Borough District budget there was enough

compromises to “fill a truck”. Councilman Schnurr stated based on an April 30, 2010 email he received from the school district, the net affect from the teachers salaries would be \$90,472.00, yet we approved a figure much lower than that. He stated he was upset because all of the budget problems have been put on the teacher’s backs. This should have been a shared sacrifice by all and it wasn’t. The superintendent of schools, business administrator and the seven school board administrators have a budgeted increase this year for \$36, 248.00.

Councilman Schnurr stated in regards to the Freehold Regional High School District budget, everyone likes the idea of budget cuts until it affects you. He stated for incoming freshman a good way to connect and meet others in high school is through athletics and after school programs. He stated that he was happy because in the budget that was introduced those things weren’t cut. He explained that he abstained on this budget because he works part-time for the school district, but had he voted, he would have voted yes.

Councilman Schnurr stated there was a lot of misinformation regarding the fire dispatchers. He explained, again, that on March 31, 2010 there was a meeting between the Finance Committee, which consisted of Councilman Kane, Councilman Newman and himself along with Mr. Bellina and Hank Stryker, President of the Fire Department, Fire Chief Jack Reichman, Assistant Fire Chief Ryan Bailey and Second Assistant Chief Dan Megill. When we started explaining the situation Hank Stryker took out a prepared statement and read it.

Councilman Schnurr stated that his comment about children running on other people’s property was made because he lives across the street from the Park Avenue School which was there before he bought his home. He stated just because it doesn’t upset him does not mean that he takes these things lightly and he doesn’t condone property damage.

Councilman Schnurr stated he is liaison to the Memorial Day Committee and the Point Service will be held on Monday, May 31, 2010 at 8:30 AM. The parade will start with a horse-drawn carriage promptly at 9:45 AM and the bulk of the parade will start at 10:00 AM. The Grand Marshall is Thomas Cole who was a Korean War Veteran and P.O.W. This is 136th year of the parade.

Councilman Schnurr stated he is liaison to the Shade Tree Commission and they had their annual Arbor Day Celebration at the Park Avenue School on Friday, April 30, 2010. The celebration included a tree planting and an education session with the school children explaining the history of Arbor Day. He stated there are two shade tree programs, the program that is run by the State is called Tree City USA and the other program is run by the Borough. The Borough program marks trees the Borough is responsible for, which are trees that are located between the curb and the sidewalk on Borough owned streets. The commission has taken a lot of dead trees down over the past few years.

Councilman Newman thanked our local Board of Education and the teachers for agreeing to a pay freeze this year. He stated he was disappointed the Finance Committee made a recommendation that the superintendents also take a pay freeze this year and that did not happen and he hopes that in the next year they agree to it as well. He stated this should be a shared sacrifice and everyone must be included. When you ask someone to take a pay freeze I think the people at the top should be taking one too.

Councilman Newman stated as to the Freehold Regional School District Budget he would have preferred that there were no job losses and a pay freeze by the teachers. It was his understanding that the administrators there were not taking a pay freeze. That was the reason he voted “no” on the Resolution.

Councilman Newman addressed Ms. Brandeo and explained that he was not sure if her situation was a Borough council issue. He felt that this is a school issue, but he will look into it and refer it to someone on the school board.

Councilman Newman stated the dump truck is outside and you can recycle your phone book there. He stated that FEMA will be helping residents that had losses due to the March 12, 2010 – April 15, 2010 floods in the area. There will be direct assistance from FEMA which will include loans and IRS deductions. The Board of Chosen Freeholders also have some sort of services and the State Bar Association attorneys are offering assistance in filling out insurance claims and repair contracts. He stated the County is looking for Open Space Grants and maybe the Borough should look into that.

Councilman Newman stated on May 4, 2010 he and Councilman Sims attended a County summit on transportation which ties in with the NJDOT grant that we just got to look at pedestrian and bicycle safety. He stated he met with some of the NJDOT personnel and they will be performing a study throughout the town for bicycle and pedestrian safety.

Councilman Newman stated the dedication for the Corporal Philip A. Reynolds Memorial Bridge will be held on Tuesday, May 18, 2010 at 10:00 AM.

Councilman Newman explained that the Historic Preservation Committee is still taking nominations for their annual awards.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated in the school district she works for she voted for a pay freeze. She can't say enough about how egregious she thinks the entire budget process has been. She stated the system of a failed budget going to the town council is not good and that whole process needs to be revised. It is the Board of Education that knows the budget best of all and it is the Board of Education who should be doing this. She stated this year was egregious because it was recommended that school budgets be defeated any place where the teachers would not adopt a pay freeze. To recommend that bear budgets be voted down was in itself suspect. She agreed with Councilman Schnurr and Councilman Newman regarding the shared sacrifice of the administrators not taking a wage freeze.

Councilwoman Shutzer addressed the bullying issue regarding Ms. Brandeo. She stated her heart breaks anytime she hears that a child has been bullied. She stated that this is a school board issue and the town council does not set policy in regards to bullying. She stated the Board of Education has a policy and she is sure there is zero-tolerance for bullying. She recommended that Ms. Brandeo speak with the Board of Education members who were present this evening.

Councilwoman Shutzer urged all residents to donate to the Freehold First Aid and Emergency Squad.

Councilwoman Shutzer stated that in 1991 there was an attempt to close the firehouse and send the dispatching to 911. At that time, she was not on council. In the late 1990's this issue came up again and there was a huge debate. She stated she fought to keep the dispatching here at the Borough and won the votes from all but one councilperson. The issue was not a surprise to anyone and her opinion has not changed, but the financial times have changed. The quality of the technology has also changed. Councilwoman Shutzer stated she resents the rumors, the innuendos and the snubs. She wanted everyone to know that none of the council members were happy about this decision.

Councilwoman Shutzer wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day and urged everyone to come out to the parade.

Councilman Sims thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He stated as far as the administrators with the local school board not taking a pay freeze, that issue is still not done and there is a special meeting on Thursday, May 20, 2010, with board members and administration to still try to negotiate a zero raise increase for them for the upcoming school year. He stated as liaison to the school board, this has been a very difficult time. The board has done a good job

with the money they have. They realize that there may be more cuts looming this upcoming school year.

Councilman Sims stated as for the Freehold Regional School District he would have voted for the proposed \$2.6 million tonight but his mother is an employee in the district and that is the reason for his abstaining. He stated all of his siblings, including him, received education from the Freehold Regional District and as you continuously see in the newspaper, Freehold High School, will always be among the top in the District, State and Country. Councilman Sims stated there was an article written by one of the local newspapers that said all of the towns in the school district agreed to the \$4.5 million and that article was incorrect. He stated that some of these cuts are drastic and he also questioned the cuts of the athletic trainers. He urged everyone to go to the Board of Education at 11 Pine Street in Englishtown to voice their concerns.

Councilman Sims wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day. He also congratulated Mayor Wilson and his daughter, Ashley, who just recently graduated college on Friday.

Councilman Kane thanked everyone for coming out tonight and expressing their concerns. He stated that Mr. Madden spoke a little bit about the First Aid Squad. This is an area that people take for granted, unless you live with someone who is a volunteer you really don't know what happens. Councilman Kane urged everyone to donate and also to volunteer.

Councilman Kane explained his comment about how the fire department should look into alternative ways to find money, what he meant was that we are in unprecedented tough financial times right now. All he was suggesting was the fire department should "look outside the box" a little bit and come up with some fundraising ideas.

Councilman Kane responded to Mr. Taylor's complaint about the children running on everyone's lawn on Kiawah Avenue. This happens every year around this time and once the police start patrolling this will stop.

Councilman Kane wanted to remind all the residents that the rumors about closing the fire house are untrue. The fire house is not closing; all we are changing is the way the dispatching works. He stated if there is an emergency all you need to do is dial 911 and that call will go to the Monmouth County radio room. The only change is going to be the call will go to the radio room first and then be forwarded to another room where they will dispatch the call from there.

Councilman Kane stated that we have had more Finance Committee meetings than ever before. As far as the local budget goes, we talked about shared sacrifices and we wanted to see across the board, from top to bottom, everyone having the same pay freezes. There are some issues going on with the local school budget. He stated Councilman Sims did a tremendous job working with the school board on this budget and hopefully they will come in with a zero percent increase for the year. We have been elected by the citizens to watch over their taxes and when they come in with a budget that enables them to continue with a thorough and efficient education for no more money, than the governing body has no choice but to go with it.

Councilman Kane stated as far as the Freehold Regional School District budget goes you really need to go to Pine Street. The governing body stands with the recommendations made by James Wassar, Superintendent of the Freehold Regional School District. Freehold High School is a nationally ranked high school and we want to continue that great tradition. He stated he has two daughters who graduated from there and they received an excellent education and they also were involved in a tremendous sports program, however, you need to keep fighting for this, because not every town is thinking like we are. Councilman Kane encouraged the Borough residents to talk to Heshy Moses because he is very vocal on the school board.

Councilman Kane reminded everyone the first Kruse Night is scheduled for Thursday, May 27, 2010 and will be scheduled on the last Thursday of every month for the next four months. The Freehold Center Partnership Summer Concert series will also be starting soon.

Councilman DiBenedetto explained to Ms. Brandeo that all bullying concerns need to be brought to the attention of the Board of Education and they are here tonight and Councilman Sims is the liaison to the school board and I am sure he will also follow-up.

Councilman DiBenedetto responded to Mr. Baldwin's comments regarding the fire department. He stated this is the fourth or fifth time he heard about the Throckmorton Street fire at the Walter J. Conley Lodge. He stated that Mr. Baldwin is not a member of the fire department and that he has been a member for over 20 years. He explained the events that preceded the fire. The night before the fire a man agitated another man outside the lodge and the man that was agitated started the fire the next morning. If the man who ran to the fire house had a cell phone we might have heard about the fire a little sooner. If the man was not sleeping in the building maybe he wouldn't have passed away. But somebody did pass away and Councilman Sims and I were on the first truck that was dispatched, but with the metal door and the walls bowing out from the heat, there was nothing we could do. This was a terrible tragedy but it happened and hopefully it will never happen again.

Councilman DiBenedetto echoed the previous council members and he commends the Board of Education and everyone involved for compromising. As for the superintendents, that is another question and I believe everyone should take a pay freeze.

Councilman DiBenedetto explained his abstaining on the Freehold Regional School District budget resolution. He stated his wife is employed by the school district.

Councilman DiBenedetto thanked Mr. Madden for his work on the first aid squad and urged everyone to donate.

Councilman DiBenedetto congratulated Nancy Forman for a terrific job and stated she will be missed.

The supplemental portion of the agenda was adjourned at 7:55 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

TRACI L. DIBENEDETTO, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

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