

The Reorganization Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold was held on Sunday, January 3, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

Mayor Wilson stated that Notice of the time, date and location of the meeting had been provided pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 231 of the Laws of 1975 (Open Public Meetings Act).

Reverend William Frederickson of First Baptist Church gave the invocation.

Mayor Wilson opened the meeting with the Salute to the Flag, followed by a moment of silence.

The Oaths of Office were administered to Councilwoman Sharon Shutzer and Councilman John F. Newman by Lieutenant Governor-Elect Kim Guadagno.

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 5 on the Agenda as follows:

#### 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

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

#### **“Resolution Authorizing 2010 Professional Services Contract with Cranmer Engineering for Borough Engineering Services.”**

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 2010 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH CRANMER ENGINEERING FOR BOROUGH ENGINEERING SERVICES.

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

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

#### **“Resolution Authorizing 2010 Professional Services Contract with BLK Associates, LLC for Borough Auditor Services.”**

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 2010 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH BLK ASSOCIATES, LLC FOR BOROUGH AUDITOR SERVICES.

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

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

**“Resolution Authorizing 2010 Professional Services Contract with Kerry E. Higgins, Esq. for Borough Legal Services.”**

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 2010 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH KERRY E. HIGGINS, ESQ. FOR BOROUGH LEGAL SERVICES.

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

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

**“Resolution Authorizing 2010 Professional Services Contract with Lomurro, Davison, Eastman & Munoz, P.A. for Borough Bond Counsel Services.”**

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 2010 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH LOMURRO, DAVISON, EASTMAN & MUNOZ, P.A. FOR BOROUGH BOND COUNSEL SERVICES.

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

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

**“Resolution Authorizing 2010 Professional Services Contract with Dilworth Paxson LLP for Borough Legal Services – Conflicts Counsel.”**

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 2010 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH DILWORTH PAXSON LLP FOR BOROUGH LEGAL SERVICES – CONFLICTS COUNSEL.

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

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

**“Resolution Accepting the Mayor’s Nomination and Appointing Municipal Prosecutor for the Year 2010: Kathleen A. Sheedy, Esq.”**

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

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE MAYOR’S NOMINATION AND APPOINTING MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR FOR THE YEAR 2010: KATHLEEN A. SHEEDY, ESQ.

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

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

**“Resolution Accepting the Mayor’s Nomination and Appointing Borough Substitute/Alternate Prosecutor for the Year 2010: Kerry E. Higgins, Esq.”**

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

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE MAYOR’S NOMINATION AND APPOINTING BOROUGH SUBSTITUTE/ALTERNATE PROSECUTOR FOR THE YEAR 2010: KERRY E. HIGGINS, ESQ.

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

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

**“Resolution Accepting the Mayor’s Nomination and Appointing Public Defender for the Year 2010: Jonathan Lomurro.”**

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

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE MAYOR’S NOMINATION AND APPOINTING PUBLIC DEFENDER FOR THE YEAR 2010: JONATHAN LOMURRO.

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

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

**“Resolution Accepting the Mayor’s Nominations and Appointments for the Year  
2010:**

<b>a.</b>	<b>Deputy Clerk</b>	<b>Joseph B. Bellina</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>b.</b>	<b>Treasurer and Collector Water &amp; Sewer Rents</b>	<b>Nancy Forman</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>c.</b>	<b>Deputy Treasurer</b>	<b>Kathleen Caruso</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>d.</b>	<b>Board of Health</b>	<b>William Madden</b>	<b>4 years</b>
		<b>Ellen Kane</b>	<b>4 years</b>
		<b>Vicki Warnock</b>	<b>4 years</b>
<b>e.</b>	<b>Borough Historian</b>	<b>Kevin Coyne</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>f.</b>	<b>Community Information Committee</b>	<b>Marc LeVine</b>	<b>1 year</b>
		<b>Lisa Schofield</b>	<b>1 year</b>
		<b>Lisa Kristiansen</b>	<b>1 year</b>
		<b>Allan Goldberg</b>	<b>1 year</b>
		<b>Kevin Asadi</b>	<b>1 year</b>
		<b>Dan Gold</b>	<b>1 year</b>
		<b>Muriel Smith</b>	<b>1 year</b>
		<b>Anthony DiFlumeri</b>	<b>1 year</b>
		<b>Jim Knox</b>	<b>1 year</b>
		<b>Mike Rosseel</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>g.</b>	<b>Emergency Management:</b>		
	<b>Daniel Megill</b>	<b>Dep. Coordinator</b>	<b>1 year</b>
	<b>Chief Mitchell Roth</b>	<b>Public Safety</b>	<b>1 year</b>
	<b>Jack Reichman</b>	<b>Fire and Rescue</b>	<b>1 year</b>
	<b>Joseph B. Bellina</b>	<b>Damage Assessment</b>	<b>1 year</b>
	<b>Traci L. DiBenedetto</b>	<b>Shelter and Welfare</b>	<b>1 year</b>
	<b>Garry Jackson</b>	<b>Fire Prevention Rep.</b>	<b>1 year</b>
	<b>Shyamal Joshi or</b>		
	<b>Duly Authorized</b>	<b>First Aid Squad</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>h.</b>	<b>Fire Prevention Bureau:</b>	<b>(State Licensed Required)</b>	<b>1 year</b>
	<b>Garry Jackson</b>	<b>Fire Official</b>	
<b>i.</b>	<b>Fire Prevention Membership</b>	<b>Gary Jackson</b>	<b>1 year</b>
		<b>J. Nolan Higgins</b>	<b>1 year</b>
		<b>James Higgins</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>j.</b>	<b>Historic Preservation Committee</b>	<b>Kevin Coyne</b>	<b>3 years</b>
		<b>Barbara Wagner</b>	<b>3 years</b>
		<b>Gregory Clark</b>	<b>3 years</b>



<b>Bill Cole</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>Giovanna Jesusi</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>Marjorie Goetz</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>Nicholas DelliSanti</b>	<b>1 year</b>

<b>u. Shade Tree Commission</b>	<b>Joseph Haug</b>	<b>5 years</b>
	<b>Janice Mundy</b>	<b>5 years</b>

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

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE MAYOR’S NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENTS FOR THE YEAR 2010.**

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

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

**“Resolution Accepting the Mayor’s Nomination and Appointing the Affirmative Action Officer for the Year 2010: Joseph B. Bellina.”**

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

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE MAYOR’S NOMINATION AND APPOINTING THE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 2010: JOSEPH B. BELLINA.**

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

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

**“Resolution Accepting the Mayor’s Nomination and Appointing the Community Development Representative and Alternate for the Year 2010: Joseph B. Bellina and Nancy Forman.”**

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

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE MAYOR’S NOMINATION AND APPOINTING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE FOR THE YEAR 2010: JOSEPH B. BELLINA AND NANCY FORMAN.**

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

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

**“Election by Council of President for Year 2010: Councilman Jaye Sims.”**

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

ELECTION BY COUNCIL OF PRESIDENT FOR YEAR 2010: COUNCILMAN JAYE SIMS.

On roll call Council Members DiBenedetto, Kane, Newman, Shutzer, Schnurr 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:

**“Election by Council of Police Commissioner for Year 2010: Councilman Kevin Kane.”**

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

ELECTION BY COUNCIL OF POLICE COMMISSIONER FOR YEAR 2010: COUNCILMAN KEVIN KANE.

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

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 19 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Election by Council of Assistant Police Commissioner for Year 2010: Councilman Jaye Sims.”**

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

ELECTION BY COUNCIL OF ASSISTANT POLICE COMMISSIONER FOR YEAR 2010: COUNCILMAN JAYE 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 read Item No. 20 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Election by Council of Fire Commissioner for Year 2010: Councilwoman Sharon Shutzer.”**

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

**ELECTION BY COUNCIL OF FIRE COMMISSIONER FOR YEAR 2010:  
COUNCILWOMAN SHARON SHUTZER.**

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. 21 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Election by Council of Assistant Fire Commissioner for Year 2010: Councilman Michael DiBenedetto.”**

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

**ELECTION BY COUNCIL OF ASSISTANT FIRE COMMISSIONER FOR YEAR 2010: COUNCILMAN MICHAEL DIBENEDETTO.**

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. 22 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Mayor’s Appointments of Council Committees for 2010:**

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>CHAIR</b>		
<b>Finance</b>	<b>Kane</b>	<b>Schnurr</b>	<b>Newman</b>
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>Shutzer</b>	<b>Sims</b>	<b>DiBenedetto</b>
<b>Public Works</b>	<b>DiBenedetto</b>		
<b>Health and Welfare</b>	<b>Kane</b>		
<b>Recreation</b>	<b>DiBenedetto</b>		
<b>Code Enforcement</b>	<b>Newman</b>		
<b>Municipal Court</b>	<b>Sims</b>		

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 23 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Appointment of Council Representatives for the Year 2010:**

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Representative</b>
<b>Advisory Council on Aging</b>	<b>Sharon Shutzer</b>
<b>Board of Education</b>	<b>Jaye Sims</b>
<b>Community Information Committee</b>	<b>Jaye Sims</b>
<b>Freehold Center Partnership</b>	<b>Kevin Kane</b>
<b>Historic Preservation</b>	<b>John Newman</b>

**Human Relations  
Library  
Memorial Day Parade  
Rental Property Review Board  
Neighborhood Pride Committee  
Planning Board  
Shade Tree Commission  
Alliance Against Drugs**

**Jaye Sims  
John Newman  
George Schnurr  
John Newman  
Kevin Kane  
George Schnurr  
George Schnurr  
Kevin Kane**

Mayor Wilson read Item No. 24 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Resolution Providing Notice of 2010 Meetings of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold.”**

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

RESOLUTION PROVIDING NOTICE OF 2010 MEETINGS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD.

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. 25 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Resolution Authorizing the Renewal and Continuance of Bonds for Officials Required to Have Bonds for the Year 2010.”**

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL AND CONTINUANCE OF BONDS FOR OFFICIALS REQUIRED TO HAVE BONDS FOR THE YEAR 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. 26 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Designating the Depositories Wherein all Public Monies and Other Funds of the Municipality Shall Be Kept.”**

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

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF  
FREEHOLD DESIGNATING THE DEPOSITORIES WHEREIN ALL PUBLIC  
MONIES AND OTHER FUNDS OF THE MUNICIPALITY SHALL BE KEPT.

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. 27 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Resolution Designating Official Newspapers for Year 2010: Asbury Park Press, News Transcript, Star Ledger and Times of Trenton.”**

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

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS FOR YEAR 2010:  
ASBURY PARK PRESS, NEWS TRANSCRIPT, STAR LEDGER AND TIMES OF  
TRENTON.

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. 28 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Freehold Fixing the Rate of Interest to be Charged on Delinquent Taxes, Assessments and Water/Sewer Accounts for 2010.”**

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

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF  
FREEHOLD FIXING THE RATE OF INTEREST TO BE CHARGED ON  
DELINQUENT TAXES, ASSESSMENTS AND WATER/SEWER ACCOUNTS FOR  
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. 29 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Resolution Authorizing and Directing the Distribution of Meeting Agendas and Minutes.”**

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DISTRIBUTION OF MEETING AGENDAS AND MINUTES.

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. 30 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Resolution Designating Official Holidays for the Employees of the Borough of Freehold, County of Monmouth, for the Year 2010.”**

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

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING OFFICIAL HOLIDAYS FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, FOR THE YEAR 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. 31 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Resolution Adopting a Cash Management Plan for the Borough of Freehold.”**

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

RESOLUTION ADOPTING A CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD.

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. 32 on the Agenda as follows:

**“Resolution Providing for 2010 Temporary Budget Appropriations.”**

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

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR 2010 TEMPORARY BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS.

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 introduced the following members of the audience: Lieutenant Governor-Elect Kim Guadagno; Van Lane, Exalted Ruler, Walter J. Conley Lodge; Lillian Burry, Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders; Mike and Marilyn LaRosa, Memorial Day Parade Committee; Pat and Amanda McCobb, Memorial Day Parade Committee; Sidney Blacknall, former Exalted Ruler, Walter J. Conley Lodge; former Fire Chief Bob Taylor; Christine Gregory, Shade Tree Commission; Maria Chaffer, Recreation Commission; Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freehold-Elect John Curley; Borough Engineer, William Wentzien; Steve Kislick, Cranmer Engineering; Patrick Accisano, Planning Board Attorney; Henry Stryker, head of Code Enforcement and former Fire Chief; Francena Bell, Recreation Commission; Richard Gartz, Borough Auditor; Former First Lady of Freehold Borough, Jane Maury; Reverend Frederickson, First Baptist Church; Jonathan Lomurro, Public Defender; Dan Xavier, member of Freehold Regional Board of Education; Adam Reich, member of Freehold Borough Board of Education and Freehold Borough Planning Board; Reverend Andre McGuire; Second Baptist Church; Kathleen Sheedy, Borough Prosecutor, Assemblywoman Caroline Casagrande; Jeff Surgent, Recreation Commission.

Mayor Wilson stated the following, "Before I say a few words, I just want to share something with everyone. I remember a few years ago I was speaking with someone in town about politics and I told them it would be a cold day in Hell before we ever had a Republican councilman elected to Freehold Borough. Well, I don't know what it is like in Hell today, but I know what it is like here so I think I am half right!

Good afternoon. On behalf of the Freehold Borough Governing Body, I sincerely hope that you all share prosperity, happiness and good health as we enter the new year. It is my wish that the inspiration of this time of year can one day lead to peace and tranquility amongst our neighbors, our country and even our adversaries throughout the world.

Once again we had a very busy year in 2009. With the receipt of a Community Development Block Grant, the Borough was able to extend the downtown theme by installing brick sidewalks down Court Street. These improvements were the logical "next step" in our downtown improvement program. The newly installed sidewalks have provided a welcoming path for all those visitors who do business at the Court House and who avail themselves of our downtown businesses.

The coming year has every opportunity to be just as busy as the one we left behind and, as always, we are excited. The Borough will resurface Sheriff Street during the coming summer with grant funds we have received from the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation Trust fund. As is customary with all road projects undertaken in town, I have already instructed the Borough's professionals to meet with the residents at the appropriate time so we may receive their input during the design stages of this project. Their input is most valuable. Other possible road projects are still under review.

Freehold Borough has previously received notification that it has been awarded a Community Development Block Grant, as well as, a Safe Routes to Transit Grant from the State of New Jersey. With these funds, the Borough will continue the revitalization to its downtown by installing brick sidewalks down Throckmorton Street. The limits of this project are Main Street to Monmouth Avenue. This project will also include tree planting and safer crossings at intersections.

There has been no more of a profound affect on our downtown than the reopening of the American Hotel. I invite everyone to stop in and support the rebirth of the crown jewel of Freehold Borough.

As I mentioned earlier, Freehold Borough, as with most municipalities in New Jersey, faces financial uncertainty. I have never witnessed such economic bleak conditions for such a

prolonged period of time. Certainly, these tough financial times may force Freehold Borough to change the manner in which it provides services to its residents. We are currently undergoing a comprehensive review of many services to determine if there is a more cost effective way to provide them without sacrificing the quality of life.

The plight of our downtown post office continues to be most baffling. Earlier this year, we were able to stave off its premature closure when we gathered the support of Congressman Smith, our State legislative delegation, and our good neighbors in Freehold Township. Our joint efforts provided a temporary victory when the Post Office announced that it forwarded our request to their “national” consolidation, where the fate of our facility still remains. We remain vigilant in the monitoring of these events, and have been emphatic in our position to them.

In the coming weeks, I will be meeting with representatives of our State’s legislative delegation to express our concerns with the horse racing industry. I will ask that legislation be enacted at some point in the near future to install slot machines and other gaming devices in the remaining race tracks in New Jersey. Such a measure will infuse the tracks with additional funds to bolster purses in the races. This will help restore New Jersey’s competitiveness in this business. Freehold Borough cannot afford to lose the track, which is one of the many hallmarks of our history.

This day of new beginnings ironically represents an ending to the public career of Councilman Marc LeVine. Marc, I would like to offer my sincere gratitude for your service to the Borough. Your insight, tireless work effort, and commitment to detail were contagious. You will be sorely missed.

I am deeply honored and pleased to once again witness the administering of the oath of office to my colleague and dear friend, Sharon Shutzer. Her enthusiasm, zeal, style and energy belie her status as a senior member of the governing body. Sharon and her husband, Richard, truly reflect the strong sense of character and pride, which is in no short supply in Freehold Borough. I look forward to working with Sharon in her next term, especially when she flashes all that wisdom and charm in my direction. Perhaps she’s inspired by my youthful charm and good looks!

I would also like to welcome John Newman to our governing body. John, I extend my hand across the proverbial aisle to you so we may work harmoniously together for the common goal, which is to continue to make Freehold Borough one of the finest middle class towns in New Jersey. The problems and challenges that we face, at times, seem insurmountable. However, our sincere cooperation, hard work and resolve will prevail. My lifelong commitment and love to Freehold Borough transcends political party affiliation. John, I wish you the best of luck.

And so, we begin a new year, in a new decade, and with a new councilman. However, our work remains. As President Abraham Lincoln once said, “With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right – let us strive on to finish the work we are in.”

Thank you for your time and your unwavering support. May God bless everyone with peace, happiness and good health in all your days ahead.”

Councilwoman Sharon Shutzer stated the following:

“In the spring of 1987, I was approached by the mayor and asked if I would be interested in running for a position on council. I told him at the time that I was flattered by the offer, but I really wanted to be a part of our daughter’s high school years. So I said we could talk about it after she graduated. I forgot about it, but in January of 1991, the mayor called again, this time I said that I would give it some thought. I was subsequently interviewed by a committee who asked me some fairly tough questions. It was during that interview that I told the committee that

they would have to understand that I am my own person, that I am ruled by my heart and by my conscious and that no one tells me how to vote or what to say. In retrospect I think that it was probably that statement that sealed the deal. Because they all agreed that I was the kind of person they wanted for the position.

After a very arduous campaign, during which, the mayor had me walking all over the town, while he drove around in a car, I won the election and I was seated as a councilperson, 19 years ago, today. Through the years there have been good times and there have been bad times, there have been challenges and there have been accomplishments. There have been issues that were daunting and issues that were easy to address. Through it all, and through all the years, I have stood my ground, given my heart and soul to this job and loved every minute of it. I find it very hard to believe that I have gone from being the junior member of council, as the mayor so graciously said, to the senior member of council and more importantly, that I have survived. However, without a doubt, I could not have done this alone, nor could I ever think about doing it alone.

I have many thanks to offer today and my appreciation comes from the depth of my being. First, my family, Richard, Kerry, Brian, Brian, Jr. and Brady have supported me unconditionally in my desire to serve this town that we all love. They are my strength, I love them and I thank them.

My fellow council members, several years the Asbury Park Press called me to ask what it was like being the only female on council. My response was a heartfelt, I am? Because it had never truly entered my mind that I was the minority up here and yet, since the exit of Barbara McMorrow, I have been the only female councilwoman. With the exception of the occasional chauvinistic remark from the mayor when I say something that hits a nerve and he asks me if I shouldn't be at home doing the laundry, I have never once, and even with him, been treated with anything but with the utmost respect. Even though some of the players have changed, we are in fact, just like a family. We discuss issues, we disagree, we argue, we make-up and we make decisions based on our love for the town and for its residents. We work together, we respect each other and we depend upon each other. This year I especially thank my fellow council members because when I was unable to participate fully as I should have in my own campaign, they stepped up and did it for me. I have personally thanked each one of them and I am glad to have the opportunity today to thank them publicly. So, to each one of you, thank you.

Our professionals and our employees continue to do us proud. I am in awe of the job that each one does on a daily basis and I thank them from the bottom of my heart. You truly make us look good and I am truly proud to work with all of you. Trust me, this town is in excellent hands.

Without our volunteers we could not function. From our fire department and first aid to every person who serves on a committee or commission in this town. Our volunteers are to be commended and appreciated. Your dedication is inspirational we should all take a page from each of your books. Thank you to each and every one of you. Our residents deserve the very best and I thank them for acknowledging our hard work by returning me to office. My pledge to them is the same that I have always made. I will continue to do and to fight for what I believe in my heart is in their best interests. I am humbled by your confidence in me and I thank you.

I would be remiss if I did not in fact thank Marc LeVine for his years of dedicated, hard work representing the people in this town. He was a tireless worker, as the mayor has already commented, and he certainly will be missed at this council table. I sincerely congratulate and welcome Councilman John Newman as he joins us. We will go forth in a spirit of working together for our beloved town.

This has not been a good year for the Shutzer family and for others as well. This summer I happened to be somewhere when Reverend Frederickson was speaking and he eluded to the life of a butterfly. Subsequently, I found a card which I shared with him and which I share with you

today. It said, "Just when the caterpillar thought the world was over it became a butterfly." I pray that we can all proceed remembering these words. A new year begins for us with a new journey and with new hope and in the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson, "What lies behind us and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us." May I just say that my mother has always said that my bladder was right behind my eyes, because I cry very easily, it is not a female whim, it is sincere.

Finally much to the mayors relief, this anonymously written blessing is my wish for you, may you always have enough happiness to keep you sweet, enough trials to keep you strong, enough success to keep you eager, enough faith to give you courage and enough determination to make each day a good day. And now for a little lighter note, a lady in this town, who I admire and who has spent many years in our public school system teaching our youth and for whom I have a great deal of respect sent me this card and I just have to share it with you. She wrote to congratulate me on my re-election and I opened it and this is what I heard, You Are Simply the Best!

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Anthony Ammiano, the mayor of Freehold Township and to his family, on the loss of his mother. I also want to be the one to announce that the Freehold Fire Department is sponsoring a spaghetti fundraiser dinner on January 16<sup>th</sup> at the American Legion for one of our own, Billy Anderson. He is one of our volunteer fire department members and he is also on many of our committees in town. He is a tireless worker who has cancer and he is going through some very difficult treatments right now. I would also like to thank Dorothy Wright for the lovely flowers. Thank you for coming out today."

Councilman John Newman stated the following:

"Good afternoon, everybody. I wasn't sure how the speeches would go today and I have two tough acts to follow. I am going to start off by thanking the people who helped me during the election time. First, my wife, Corinne and my two daughters, Mary and Genevieve. My parents, my family, my work, I just started working there in July and they have allowed me time to pursue this campaign and have been very supportive. Closer to home, I have had a lot of support from my running mate, Ted Miller, he gave me a lot of support during the campaign and he has been very helpful afterwards. I also want to thank John Casagan, Joe Williams and a whole bunch of republicans that left me already today. I also had a lot of bi-partisan support and I want to thank those people and my neighbors, as well.

I did not prepare a specific speech today. I want to just address some issues that I would like to see come to fruition during my tenure on council. The first thing I would like to see is a more open and accessible government. That is not saying anything against the people who are sitting here right now. I would like to see the Freehold Borough Ordinances put online so people can see them. Right now the only way you can see an ordinance is by going to Borough Hall or to the library. By putting ordinances, meeting agendas and minutes online it will enable people to become more involved. They will see what's happening instead of reading about it in the papers. Job position openings and committee openings are currently posted online sometimes, but there might be other ways to keep our residents informed, such as posting these openings throughout the different organizations in town. I would like to just try and think of different ways to do things. I am sure I will be corrected on some of the stuff I say later by the council people here because I have not been part of the process, but I am coming from an outside view, I am not a politician.

Today is my first day as an elected official and I want to make myself open and accessible. I want to make the rest of the government open and accessible to the people of Freehold Borough. One of the ways to make the government more open is by having Comcast, our local cable television station, broadcast our events. There are a lot of towns who currently

broadcast their meetings and this is something I would like to pursue. There are a lot of people who cannot attend the meetings, I am sure council knows that a lot of the meetings are not as well attended as this one. I have seen online in some places like Brick Township where the meetings are being broadcasted and even though there is still just one person in attendance at the meeting, you still have the option of viewing the meeting from your own home. Not everyone's schedule allows them to get to the meetings.

One of the other issues that I would like to address while I am here is starting a citizen's budget committee. This type of committee has worked on the County level and they have made several recommendations over the past few years which saved the County and its taxpayers millions of dollars. I know that everyone is not a fan of more committees, but another set of eyes can be helpful. I know the Borough already participates in a lot shared services with other towns. I would like to work with the Borough and council members in trying to get involved with even more shared services. I would like to encourage the Borough and council to reach out a little bit more to the private sector and non-profit sector. I know the Rotary Club has donated bicycle racks to the town, but there are a lot of other non-profit organizations out there that are willing to help, if we learn how to reach out to them. I was going to talk about downtown development and a whole bunch of other things, but I've decided to keep it short and sweet so everyone can celebrate afterwards.

In closing, I would like to thank the council members here who have all reached out to me, congratulated me and have been very warm and cordial to me. Marc LeVine whose seat I am filling has been very gracious, he has been a gentleman and has even reached out to me today to wish me good luck and to offer his assistance. I would like to thank Marc LeVine, as well, for his help. Thank you."

Councilman George Schnurr stated the following:

"I would like to congratulate newly selected Freehold Borough Council President Jaye Sims. Jaye has the respect and admiration of the entire council. Next, I would like congratulate Councilman Newman and Councilwoman Shutzer and their families on their election victories. Public service in Freehold is a great way to help others. To contribute your knowledge, experience and skills for the betterment of your community, is a great way to carry out your vision of Freehold and afford you the opportunity to meet new people from many groups and organizations in the Borough, including taxi cab drivers! When I was first appointed to the Borough council in 2007 and subsequently elected to my first full term in 2008, along with Councilman DiBenedetto, I mentioned the need to listen to each other a little better without the baggage that is associated with party affiliation or group identification. Then I called upon the goodwill of others to rise above these differences and to cherry pick good ideas regardless of where they came from. I want to let everyone know that I meant it then and I mean it now. In a small town like ours when all is said and done there is no Republican way to accomplish snow removal, no Democratic way to do leaf and brush clean up. There is just ideas, good ideas, better ideas and the people who think of these ideas and then turn these ideas into a plan of action. While I am on the subject of people who put plans into action, I wanted to thank the people who serve on the various boards, the various committees and service groups, many who are represented here today. They know what I know that serving your community is not only the best gift you can give to Freehold Borough, but the best gift you can give to yourself. We all know the good feeling you get inside when you help others and know that you are making a difference. Thank you all for making that difference in our community.

All of us on the council believe in Freehold and pledge to devote our time and energy in keeping Freehold a great home town. Whether the issue is crime prevention and policing, downtown development, fiscal responsibility, providing infrastructure improvements, job

creation and economic development or improving the quality of life for our residents, I look forward to working with the entire council and residents of Freehold Borough during the upcoming year. Thank you.”

Councilman Michael DiBenedetto stated the following:

I would like to thank all of you for coming out on this cold and windy day to help us celebrate the New Year, our Reorganization Meeting and the swearing in of John Newman and Sharon Shutzer. John, I would like to welcome you to the council, I wish you well. As you will find out, not only will you have to solve a lot of problems, but you will also have to make some hard decisions. All these decisions, although they may be hard to make, keep in mind they are all for the augmentation of this town. I would also like to thank Marc LeVine for his hard work and dedication to the people of Freehold. Marc and I always didn't see eye to eye but at the end of the day it all came down to the people in the community and we worked out our differences. His passion and love for this town will be hard to replace.

Sharon, I would like to wish nothing but the best for you and your family. She has silently kept filling the arbiters that life keeps throwing at her, through prayers and faith. You the people have shown your faith in Sharon, through this past election, her acuity for the town of Freehold is always close to her heart.

I would like to thank our volunteers and service groups. They need to be applauded. Our first aid, who answer their calls with their love for this town, they are in desperate need of volunteers and donations. Our fire department, under the leadership of Jack Reichman, will be awarded another grant which they will obtain soon for about \$60,000.00, which now I have been told brings up their grants to \$175,000.00. This will provide better services for you and the safety of the firemen.

To all of the board members, especially the Recreation Commission, which I sit upon, I know the tireless hours and the times you don't want to come out, but I thank you and applaud you today also.

In closing, I would be remiss not to thank my family, especially my wife, for letting me come to the meetings and do what I do. I know it is hard on families, and I would like to thank all of the families that have come today. I thank everyone for coming out again and hope your best days of 2009 are your worst days in 2010. Thank you.”

Councilman Kevin Kane stated the following:

Good afternoon, I would like to thank everyone for coming out. I will also be brief. I would like to congratulate our senior council member, Sharon Shutzer, on her re-election. I would also like to congratulate John Newman. I look forward to working with you and I am sure we are going to be able to get a lot done working together. I would also like to thank Marc LeVine. You have heard Marc's name mentioned a few times today, Marc is a tremendous worker and he's not going anywhere. As you saw today, he is still on 3 or 4 committees and he will continue to work hard for us.

I always take this opportunity at the Reorganization Meeting to look around the room and thank all the volunteers. Growing up in this town you see how everyone pitches in and gets things done. If you look in this room, these are the people that make it happen. I would like to thank all the volunteers and committee members in this room and if you're not one of them you need to figure out how to become one, because the Borough can always use volunteers.

In these tough times you don't have to go far to figure out that last year was a really tough year as far as our economy goes and without Joseph Bellina and the staff at Borough Hall we would not be in the situation we're in now. These people do tremendous work in finding

ways to stretch our dollars. You heard recently we received a \$230,000.00 State grant to extend the sidewalk and make improvements to Throckmorton Street. We are going to go from Main Street all the way up to Monmouth Avenue. This is just another gateway that is going to have tremendous improvements on it. The residents in that area came to us and said we need to do something and Joe went out and found a \$230,000.00 grant, along with the Community Development Block Grant. To Joe, Nancy, Kathy, Traci and everyone at Borough Hall thank you for the job that you guys do. I would also like to thank our professionals, Kerry Higgins, Ricky Gartz, William Wentzien, Steve Kislick, and John Lomurro.

I would also like to thank our police and fire department, as well as, the first aid squad. All of these departments do a tremendous job and they really don't get the thanks that they deserve.

Congratulations to Jaye Sims on being appointed Council President, he will do a great job. For those who have not been to the American Hotel yet, you have to go. It is more than we all hoped that it could ever be. Steve Goldberg, thank you and congratulations. Steve kept up with this project, there were a lot of trying times in that whole process and Steve stayed the course. He did a tremendous job along with Anthony from T&K Contractors.

A couple of announcements, in July, World Changers will be back again for the third consecutive year. We are planning some nice projects for this year. For those of you who have been asking Olde Freehold Day will be back the first Saturday in August this year.

I want to wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. Thank you."

Councilman Jaye Sims stated the following:

"Good afternoon and Happy New Year. I would like to congratulate Councilwoman Shutzer on her re-election to council. Sharon, you are a loving mother, grandmother and dear friend and I look forward to working with you over the next three years again. To Councilman Newman, I had the pleasure of meeting you in November shortly after the election and I know you share a deep passion for this town, so just like the rest of us here on council, I know that John wants what's best for Freehold Borough. Good luck to you also and I look forward to working with you.

To mayor and council, I would like to thank you for electing me to position of Council President this year. It is an honor not only for me, but for my family. Just like I have done for the past four years, I will work hard to fulfill the duties of this position when needed.

As everyone else has mentioned, this town does not only run by the council. We have excellent professionals and personnel that do our day to day business here in town. I would like to take this time to publicly thank Joseph Bellina, Borough Administrator and all the employees who work for him for all of their service to this town.

Last year I made the pitch to support volunteerism here in Freehold Borough. We almost crossed that threshold, but unfortunately mother nature played a major role in not allowing us. We had two rain-outs including our scheduled rain-date. I would like to put that back on the plate again this year as our initiative and hopefully sometime in September we will be able to have our Volunteer Fair. The fair will display all of the work done by our committees here in town and will hopefully encourage more residents to come out to support and get involved in the town.

Finally, on a somber note I would like to ask that all of you say your prayers and keep your thoughts with my family as today my brother-in-law was deployed to Afghanistan for a year. I ask you to keep your prayers with him, as well as, the tens of thousands of men and women that are serving our Country here and abroad.

Thank you and God bless you all."

Mayor Wilson thanked everyone for coming out and wished everyone a Happy New Year. The meeting was adjourned at 2:02 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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TRACI L. DIBENEDETTO, RMC  
BOROUGH CLERK

TLD:aj