

MINUTES**December 18, 1996**

The Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren met in regular session in its offices in the Administration Building, Belvidere, NJ on Wednesday, December 18, 1996 at 7:12 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Director Susan Dickey and upon roll call the following members were present: Freeholder Susan Dickey, Freeholder Ann Stone and Freeholder Kenneth Miller.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Director Dickey.

Director Dickey read the following statement: "ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT BY FORWARDING A SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO THE WARREN COUNTY CLERK, THE STAR/GAZETTE, BLAIRSTOWN PRESS, THE NEWS, STAR-LEDGER AND THE EXPRESS-TIMES AND BY POSTING A COPY THEREOF ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS. FORMAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN BY THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS AT THIS MEETING. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IS ENCOURAGED. IN ORDER TO ASSURE FULL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, THOSE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE MEETING SHOULD SUBMIT ANY REQUESTS FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE".

RESOLUTION 717-96

On motion by Mrs. Stone, seconded by Mr. Miller, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held December 18, 1996.

RESOLUTION TO PAY BILLS

BE AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Master Voucher Certificate for Certification for Payment No. 96-33A dated December 18, 1996 in the amount of \$195,270.06 including bills and investments, is approved subject to the review of the vouchers by the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

96-33A

195,270.06

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren on the date above mentioned.

s/Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller: yes Mrs. Stone: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes

RESOLUTION 718-96

On motion by Mrs. Stone, seconded by Mr. Miller, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held December 18, 1996.

RESOLUTION SETTING DATE AND TIME OF ANNUAL MEETING

BE AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:20-75, the Stated Annual Meeting of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren shall be held in the Warren County Court House, Court Room #1, Belvidere, New Jersey, at 2:00 P.M. on Wednesday, January 1, 1997. The Board of Chosen Freeholders shall take action upon reorganized resolutions, appointments, and other matters normally acted upon at reorganizational meetings.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren on the date above mentioned.

s/Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller: yes Mrs. Stone: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes

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The resolution entitled "RESOLUTION APPROVING LEASE AGREEMENT WITH INDUSTRIAL COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY REGARDING ANTENNA AND SHELTER SPACE ON RADIO TOWER IN HARMONY TOWNSHIP" will be held, with no action taken, until the December 23rd freeholder meeting in order that the board members can read the agreement.

RESOLUTION 719-96

On motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Stone, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held December 18, 1996.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING WARREN COUNTY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SOMERSET HOME FOR TEMPORARILY DISPLACED CHILDREN FOR THE PROVISION OF YOUTH SHELTER HOUSING AND SERVICES FOR WARREN COUNTY YOUTH FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 1997 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1997; RATE NOT TO EXCEED \$125 PER DAY

WHEREAS, Warren County is desirous of housing appropriate youth on an as needed basis at the facility operated by the Somerset Home for Temporarily Displaced Children; and **WHEREAS**, Somerset Home for Temporarily Displaced Children has agreed to provide youth shelter services to Warren County youth at a rate not to exceed \$125 per day.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren that the freeholder director and the deputy clerk of the board are hereby authorized to enter into an agreement, attached hereto and made a part hereof with the Somerset Home for Temporarily Displaced Children for the provision of youth shelter services to Warren County youth as outlined in said agreement for the period January 1, 1997 through December 31, 1997.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren on the date above mentioned.

s/Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller: yes Mrs. Stone: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes

On motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Stone, the resignation received from Anita Ardia as a member of the WC Citizen Advisory Committee on Fiscal Affairs effective January 1, 1997 was accepted with regret.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller: yes Mrs. Stone: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes

A letter of thanks will be sent to Ms. Ardia.

RESOLUTION 720-96

On motion by Mrs. Stone, seconded by Mr. Miller, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held December 18, 1996.

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE WARREN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren that the following members are appointed to the Warren County Economic Development Advisory Council effective December 18, 1996:

Dr. Vincent De Sanctis
Warren County Community College
475 Route 57W
Washington, NJ 07882

Term to expire: 9/30/98

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Frank P. Mancuso
 WC Vocational & Technical Institute
 1500 Route 57
 Washington, NJ 07882

Term to expire: 9/30/98

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren on the date above mentioned.

s/Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller: yes Mrs. Stone: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes

Mrs. Dickey commented that she doesn't understand the need for so many people on this council.

County counsel had nothing to report.

County Engineer David Hicks reported that the Hope Crossing Road Bridge had to be closed today due to a problem with rods breaking. The factory reps will be coming to check this out.

The County Planner and County CFO were not here.

County Administrator Henry Dinger had submitted two hiring requests and both were approved.

Mr. Dinger gave the board a summary report on the county insurance programs. If the county joins the CAP (Community Alliance Pool), we will realize a savings of \$76,812. Mr. Dinger was authorized to sign the Assessment Proposal on behalf of the county so we can implement this program for 1/1/97.

Under freeholder comments, Mr. Miller had nothing at this time.

Mrs. Stone said that she attended the PCFA meeting that was held today and she reiterated the fact that they need to build the recycling center. It was never voted on not to build the recycling center. We should re-establish the old committee.

Mrs. Dickey asked what was said about the garbage coming in.

Mrs. Stone said that this is the first time there has ever been a revenue shortfall and she is not sure where the garbage is coming from. PCFA had voted not to accept anything from Freshkills. This garbage is coming through a broker. The concern is where is it coming from. Bart said it is closely monitored.

Mrs. Dickey said she had received a letter from the Coalition Against Aircraft Noise. She will supply a copy to the board and asked that the board consider passing a resolution in support of this.

Mrs. Stone said she read an article about the lawmakers voting on the recycling programs in New Jersey. They may do away with the funding. They are voting tomorrow.

Mrs. Dickey said we received a letter from McBride. The fare box didn't make it.

Members of Blairstown council and residents of Blairstown came before the board regarding various issues on High Street. John Harry, Deputy Mayor of Blairstown attended, also F.D. Shotwell. They have a unified opinion on what they want done on High Street; either a three-way stop or a dead end.

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Colleen Miller said that most of the residents on High St. don't want it to be one-way as it would make it too dangerous. They need the traffic to be slowed down and make the street a dead-end or install a three-way stop sign.

Many possible solutions were discussed; a three-way stop sign, making the street a dead-end street, enforcing the speed limit, speed bumps, etc. Dave Hicks said that speed bumps are not an option. As far as enforcing the speed limit, while the cops are there, everyone obeys the speed limit, but when they leave, they go right back to speeding and the cops can't sit there all day to try and enforce the speed limit.

Freeholder Stone reminded the residents that the county had an agreement worked out with Blirstown to take over this road, the county spent approximately \$300,000 to get this road in good shape and then the town wouldn't take it over.

Mrs. Miller said they are not here to talk about the road swale. They are concerned about the safety of their children and what can be done to insure the safety of the children.

Mr. Harry said the council voted 4 to 1 against a road swap.

Someone in the audience suggested overhead flashers that flash when people go over the speed limit.

Mrs. Dickey asked Mr. Hicks for his suggestion. Mr. Hicks said he has already made his recommendation.

Mrs. Miller asked about a cul-de-sac at the end of the road. Mr. Hicks said that we would have to buy more land in order to do that and also mentioned that the county doesn't have cul-de-sacs in their road system.

Someone said that this has been a problem since 1959. What about rumble strips, stop signs and/or police enforcement of the speed limit.

Mrs. Dickey said that this is a serious problem and because the township will not take the road back, we will have to do something; look at a more permanent solution. It sounds to her like a cul-de-sac is the answer.

Mr. Dinger said that they are not making any headway and his suggestion is that the board ask Dave Hicks to look at all the suggestions and come back with his recommendation.

Mr. Miller suggested a "no right hand turn" on Stillwater.

Susan wondered if they should arrange a meeting and look at all the suggestions.

Mrs. Stone said that she attends the public works meetings which are held regularly and perhaps she can select one of the Blirstown residents to attend these meetings. Blirstown has to address the enforcement problem and we will handle what the county is responsible for. The county will look at all the options and suggestions.

Ray Bohacz spoke to the board again regarding his situation. He received the letter from George Ulmer but he still has concerns about the depth of the swale. Mrs. Stone told him this project would be finished in the spring. Mr. Bohacz wants Mr. Ulmer to put in writing that the swale is safe.

Mr. Miller mentioned that the milling that was put in has scoured out. Mr. Bohacz suggested that the county run a pipe to level it out. Mrs. Dickey told him again that nothing more can be done until spring.

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Anna Marie Caldara asked the board if they had seen the ad regarding the incinerator that her group put in five local papers and submitted copies to the board.

There were no further public comments and no press comments or questions.

RESOLUTION 721-96

On motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Stone, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held December 18, 1996.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO HOLD AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON DECEMBER 18, 1996. THE GENERAL NATURE OF THE SUBJECT TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDES VARIOUS PERSONNEL MATTERS; CONTRACTS; LITIGATION, LAND ACQUISITION; ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS AND IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE ABOVE STATED SUBJECT MATTER WILL BE MADE PUBLIC AT SUCH TIME AS THE PUBLIC INTEREST PERMITS DISCLOSURE AND/OR WHEN A REQUEST IS MADE CONSISTENT WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT AND WITH STATUTORY AND COMMON LAW "RIGHT TO KNOW" PROVISIONS

WHEREAS, Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231,P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist, **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren in the State of New Jersey, pursuant to Section 8 of said act, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.

2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is:

1. Various personnel matters.
2. Contracts.
3. Litigation.
4. Land acquisition.
5. Attorney/client privileged communications.

3. It is anticipated that the above stated subject matter will be made public at such time as the public interest permits disclosure and/or when a request for disclosure is made consistent with the Open Public Meetings Act and with statutory and common law "right to know" provisions.

4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren on the date above mentioned.

s/Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller: yes Mrs. Stone: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes

Director Dickey called for a five minute break at 9:00 p.m.

The board went into executive session at 9:12 p.m.

The board returned to open session at 10:05 p.m.

Nothing discussed in executive session has lost its confidentiality.

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The board asked that the Cultural and Heritage resolution pulled from the last meeting be put on again on the December 23rd agenda.

RESOLUTION 722-96

On motion by Mrs. Stone, seconded by Mr. Miller, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held December 18, 1996.

RESOLUTION APPROVING LEASE AGREEMENT WITH INDUSTRIAL COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY REGARDING ANTENNA AND SHELTER SPACE ON RADIO TOWER IN HARMONY TOWNSHIP

WHEREAS, Industrial Communications Company is the owner of a parcel of land designated as Block 14, Lot 9.02 in the Township of Harmony, County of Warren, and owns and maintains on said parcel of land a radio tower and a building for antenna equipment; and

WHEREAS, since on or about October 1, 1995 Industrial Communications Company has permitted the County of Warren to utilize antenna space on said radio tower, and shelter space in said building for antenna equipment, for use by the County's 9-1-1 services and RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service), on an informal verbal lease basis without charge; and

WHEREAS, the parties are desirous of formalizing their existing verbal lease arrangement by entering into a written lease agreement between Industrial Communications Company as landlord and the County of Warren as tenant, for a term of five (5) years commencing on October 1, 1995 and terminating on September 30, 2000, in the form of a Lease Agreement which is made a part of this Resolution by reference and is incorporated herein as if set forth verbatim; and

WHEREAS, the availability of funds is not pertinent hereto, as the Lease Agreement is without charge to the County,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren that the said Lease Agreement is hereby approved and the freeholder director is hereby authorized and directed to execute same.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren on the date above mentioned.

s/Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller: yes Mrs. Stone: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes

On motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Dickey, and there being no further official business to come before the board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller: yes Mrs. Stone: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes

ATTESTED TO:

Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk