

MINUTES**September 24, 1997**

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, September 24, 1997 at 7:07 p.m.

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

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

Director Stone 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".

On motion by Mr. Lance, seconded by Mrs. Dickey, the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Chosen Freeholders held August 27, 1997 were approved as presented.

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

On motion by Mr. Lance, seconded by Mrs. Dickey, the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Chosen Freeholders held September 3, 1997 were approved with a correction on Page 3.

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

PROCLAMATION 564-97

On motion by Mr. Lance, seconded by Mrs. Dickey, the following proclamation was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held September 24, 1997.

PROCLAMATION - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH - OCTOBER 1997

WHEREAS, in Warren County, over 648 women were victims of domestic violence in 1996; and

WHEREAS, we in Warren County are committed to restoring our first civil right - - - the right to freedom from fear in our own homes; and

WHEREAS, the problems of domestic violence are not confined to any group or groups of people but cross all economic, racial and social barriers; and

WHEREAS, in our quest to impose sanctions on those who break the law by perpetrating violence, we must also meet the needs of battered women and their children who often suffer grave financial, physical and psychological losses; and

WHEREAS, impact of domestic violence is wide ranging, affecting society as a whole;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that in recognition of the important work done by domestic violence programs, the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren does hereby proclaim the month of October 1997 as **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS**

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MONTH and urges all citizens to actively participate in the scheduled activities and programs sponsored by the Domestic Abuse and Rape Crisis Center (D.A.R.C.C.) to work toward the elimination of personal and institutional violence against women.

Ann M. Stone, Director
Board of Chosen Freeholders

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

Karen Kubert accepted the proclamation on behalf of DARCC.

She pointed out that much has been done to prevent domestic violence through the Prosecutor's Office and the Correctional Center and also with the support of the freeholder board.

There were no public comments on agenda items.

RESOLUTION 565-97

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. Lance, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held September 24, 1997.

RESOLUTION TO PAY BILLS

BE AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that Master Voucher Certificate for Certification for Payment No. 97-25 dated September 24, 1997 in the amount of \$1,515,643.91 including bills and investments, is approved subject to the review of the vouchers by the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

97-25	\$1,515,643.91
TOTAL	\$1,515,643.91

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

RESOLUTION 566-97

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. Lance, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held September 24, 1997.

**RESOLUTION AMENDING 1997 COUNTY CONTRACT WITH
CATHOLIC CHARITIES
FOR PROVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES
FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 1997 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1997;
THEREBY RAISING CONTRACT CEILING FROM \$415,510 TO \$455,751**

BE IT RESOLVED that the 1997 county contract with Catholic Charities is amended for provision of human services in the amount of \$40,241 for the following program:

Alternatives to Detention

for the period of July 1, 1997 through December 31, 1997; thereby increasing the 1997 county contract ceiling from \$415,510 to \$455,751; funds are available in SFY'97

MINUTES**September 24, 1997****State/Community Partnership Grant.**

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

RESOLUTION 567-97

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. Lance, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held September 24, 1997.

**RESOLUTION AMENDING 1997 COUNTY CONTRACT WITH
FAMILY GUIDANCE CENTER
FOR PROVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES
FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 1997 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1997;
THEREBY RAISING CONTRACT CEILING FROM \$722,298 TO \$739,798**

BE IT RESOLVED that the 1997 county contract with Family Guidance Center is amended for provision of human services in the amount of \$17,500 for the following program:

Juvenile Justice Wraparound

for the period July 1, 1997 through December 31, 1997; thereby increasing the 1997 county contract ceiling from \$722,298 to \$739,798; funds are available in the SFY'97 State/Community Partnership

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

RESOLUTION 568-97

On motion by Mr. Lance, seconded by Mrs. Dickey, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held September 24, 1997.

**RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF SPECIFICATION WC9787 AND AUTHORIZATION
TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR FRESH BAKED GOODS FOR
WARREN HAVEN**

BE IT RESOLVED, that specification WC9787 for fresh baked goods for Warren Haven is hereby approved

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director of Purchasing is hereby directed to advertise for bids for the above in the Star Gazette.

Funds for this contract are provided in budget account A01-06-01501.06.029 - Warren Haven Dietary Baked Goods

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

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RESOLUTION 569-97

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. Lance, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held September 24, 1997.

RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF SPECIFICATION WC9788 AND AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR COURTHOUSE VIDEOCONFERENCING EQUIPMENT AND INSTALLATION

BE IT RESOLVED, that specification WC9788 for courthouse videoconferencing equipment and installation is hereby approved

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director of Purchasing is hereby directed to advertise for bids for the above in the Star Gazette.

Funds for this contract are provided in capital account A01-10-02500.04.750 - 97 Capital - Video Courtroom.

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

RESOLUTION 570-97

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. Lance, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held September 24, 1997.

RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF SPECIFICATION WC9790 AND AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR LINENS FOR WARREN HAVEN

BE IT RESOLVED, that specification WC9790 for linens for Warren Haven is hereby approved

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director of Purchasing is hereby directed to advertise for bids for the above in the Star Gazette.

Funds for this contract are provided in budget account A01-06-01501.10.139 - Warren Haven - Laundry/Linens

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

RESOLUTION 571-97

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. Lance, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held September 24, 1997.

RESOLUTION RE: APPROVING THE AGREEMENT WC9789R FOR AN INSURANCE POLICY COVERING ISD COMPUTER EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

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WITH A POLICY UNDERWRITTEN BY BIRMINGHAM FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF PENNSYLVANIA, AN AMERICAN GROUP (AIG) COMPANY FOR THE CONTRACT PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 1997 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 1998 IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$11,650.00

WHEREAS, the County of Warren is obtaining an insurance policy as opposed to a maintenance contract for the Warren County ISD Department; and

WHEREAS, such purchase of insurance is excepted from public bidding under N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(m) of the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et. seq., and

WHEREAS, adequate funds are available in budget account A01-01-00151.00.034 - Information Systems Maintenance and License fees

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren in the State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The agreement between the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren and the Birmingham Fire Insurance Company of Pennsylvania, an American Insurance Group (AIG) for the above insurance policy in the amount of \$11,650.00, per letter of agreement which is currently on file in the Office of the Director of Purchasing, be made part of this resolution by reference and approved and entered into by the Board on behalf of the County of Warren.
2. The Director is hereby authorized to execute said letter of Agreement by signing same.
3. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a Professional Service under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law because the purchase of insurance is excepted from public bidding.
4. A notice of this action shall be published in the Star Gazette, as required by law, within ten days of its adoption.

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

There was a question regarding savings with this policy and Chris Pessolano said there was a \$4,000 savings.

RESOLUTION 572-97

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. Lance, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held September 24, 1997.

RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO WANG LABORATORIES INC., OF TEWKSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS UNDER NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACT #A75389 FOR SERVICE CONTRACT FOR CAD COMPUTER MAINFRAME SYSTEMS, CAD COMPUTER BACKUP SYSTEM, AND SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR PERSONAL COMPUTERS, AND

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**RELATED PERIPHERALS FOR THE WARREN COUNTY
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF
\$22,261.44**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the purchasing department is authorized to issue a purchase order for service, support and maintenance for CAD computer mainframe systems, CAD computer backup system and personal computers and related peripherals, is hereby awarded to . . . Wang Laboratories Inc., Tewksbury, Massachusetts in the total amount of . . . \$22,261.44

at the prices established under New Jersey State Contract #A75389

Funding for this contract has been provided in budget account A01-03-00961.00.515 - Comm Ctr - Equipment/Repair Parts

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

RESOLUTION 573-97

On motion by Mr. Lance, seconded by Mrs. Dickey, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held September 24, 1997.

RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO ERICSSON GE MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS INC., UNDER NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACT #A74267 COVERING RADIO COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT, ACCESSORIES & OPTIONS FOR RADIO EQUIPMENT FOR THE WARREN COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,680.00

BE IT RESOLVED, that the purchasing department is authorized to issue a purchase order for radio equipment and accessories for the Warren County Communications Center is hereby awarded

to . . . Ericsson GE Mobile Communications, Totowa, New Jersey

in the amount of . . . \$16,680.00

at the prices established under New Jersey State Contract #A74267

Funding for this contract has been provided in account 801-03150.808 - 911 Comm Ctr - Law Enforcement Equipment

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

RESOLUTION 574-97

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. Lance, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held September 24, 1997.

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**RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT #WC9775
TO OWL CONTRACTING, INC. OF ROCKAWAY, NJ
FOR THE RESURFACING AND REHABILITATION
OF COUNTY ROUTES #521 AND #659
FRELINGHUYSEN AND HARDWICK TOWNSHIPS
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$789,759.50**

WHEREAS, the County advertised for bids to be received on Tuesday, September 16, 1997 at 1:30P.M. for contract #WC9775 for the resurfacing and rehabilitation of County Routes #521 & #659, Frelinghuysen and Hardwick Townships; and

WHEREAS, Owl Contracting, Inc. of Rockaway, New Jersey submitted the lowest responsible and responsive bid (minus Items #45, #63 and #64) of \$789,759.50; and

WHEREAS, the bid does not exceed the Engineer's estimate for the project; and

WHEREAS, adequate funds have been established in account A01-10-02500.01.700 and certified by the County Chief Financial Officer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren do hereby award the contract for the above project to Owl Contracting, Inc. in the amount \$789,759.50.

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

RESOLUTION 575-97

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. Lance, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held September 24, 1997.

**RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE
WARREN COUNTY VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL
SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren hereby reappoints the following member to the WC Vocational-Technical School Board of Education for a four year term effective November 1, 1997:

Mrs. Margaret Niece
19 Scranton Parkway
Oxford, NJ 07863

Term to expire: October 31, 2001

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

RESOLUTION 576-97

On motion by Mr. Lance, seconded by Mrs. Dickey, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held September 24, 1997.

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**RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE
WARREN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren hereby reappoints the following members to the WC Economic Development Advisory Council for two year terms effective October 1, 1997, all terms to expire September 30, 1999:

John Celentano
Thomas Drake
I. Joel Foreman
Gary J. Gatyas
Neil Kappers
Joseph Kennedy
Robert Langner
Ann M. Stone
Robert McCabe
Denis O'Rourke
Alvin Ratzman
Edward Salmon
Robert Shoremount
Maryann E. Wilson

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

RESOLUTION 577-97

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. Lance, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held September 24, 1997.

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE
WARREN COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren hereby appoints the following member to the Warren County Solid Waste Advisory Council, effective September 25, 1997, representing Paulinskill-Pequest Watershed Association, an environmental interest:

Joyce Siegmeister
87 Millbrook Road
Blairstown, NJ 07825

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

MINUTES**September 24, 1997****RESOLUTION 578-97**

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. Lance, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held September 24, 1997.

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE
WARREN COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren hereby appoints the following member to the Warren County Solid Waste Advisory Council, effective September 25, 1997, representing Oxford-White Association:

Fay Yeager
429 Route 31
Oxford, NJ 07863

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

A resignation was received from Cheryl Burket, effective September 19, 1997, as a member to the WC Environmental Commission.

On motion by Mrs. Stone, seconded by Mr. Lance, a letter of thanks is to be sent to Mrs. Burket for her contributions to the Environmental Commission.

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

Freeholder Dickey requested some time at this point to present her proposal which would deal with the county's solid waste issue. Mrs. Dickey pointed out that PCFA has not met with the municipalities and incorrect information has been given out to the public. She also stressed that these opinions are her's and not those of the board.

Some areas of this plan needs research. Some issues may have to be resolved but this proposal does eliminate the debt and protects us from future debt. The first action this board would have to take is someone to come in assess the value of what we have to sell. She is asking this board to look at our options. She has already talked to a company who would give us an estimate.

Mrs. Dickey thanked Mrs. Stone for allowing her to present this proposal on the agenda. Ann said they would look at the plan but she is upset at what she has been reading in the papers.

Mrs. Stone said she has asked many questions of PCFA but has received no answers yet. This is a very serious situation and we have to work together. PCFA is lobbying with the mayors against the freeholder board and this is not right. It is not in the best interest of the people. This is becoming too political.

Mr. Lance said that we should not be in the garbage business. He understands that Sussex County was left with some stranded costs in that instance. We should pursue this plan.

Henry said that the state is making noises about the county being responsible. This is not from the legislature's side or the governor's office, this is a bureaucrat's opinion, not from the governor or the legislators. It is important to remember that there may be a state solution. Henry thinks that the law is on our side.

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County Counsel David Wallace has items for executive session only and reminded the board that he has to leave by 9:00 p.m.

County Engineer David Hicks had nothing to report.

County Planner David Dech reported that regarding the state cross acceptance plan, there will be a public hearing on October 23rd at 7:00 p.m. at the Pequest Fish Hatchery.

He also reported that there will be five regional meetings in the county (held by the planning department); one on October 6th in Harmony, one on October 8th in Washington Borough, one on October 9th in the Cooperative Extension Office, one on October 14th in Blairstown and one on October 16th in Mansfield Township. These meetings will be held with the cross acceptance committees.

Tomorrow at 11:30, there will a closing on the White Lake property to be held at the site. He invited all the freeholders to attend. This is a 385 acre parcel. Today the closing was held on the Oxford Mountain property which is a 170 acre parcel.

County CFO Pete Houck said he has received a report from the State Treasurer on the operating audit of PCFA.

County Administrator Henry Dinger submitted four hiring requests for consideration. The two requests for the correctional center were approved but the two for the road department were deferred until a later date.

Under freeholder comments, Andy Ruth from Harmony wanted the board to have information on what Union County has done regarding their incinerator. They own the facility and lease it back to Ogden Martin.

Susan said she sat on a panel last week dealing with environmental issues that was chaired by Bella Abzug. It was pointed out that cancer is only 10% hereditary. New Jersey has been taken off the National Cancer Register because their statistics were outdated. She passed out a pledge sheet for anyone who wants to sign one. She will leave it in the freeholder's office.

Mr. Lance mentioned that regarding the incinerator, he heard that Hamm Sanitation is being sold.

Mr. Lance also asked that the board again ask Duane Copley to contact LeBlock regarding his property. He asked that Duane be required to put something in writing by Friday regarding this issue.

Under public comments, Chris Pessolano, Director of Purchasing, reported that the county auction was a big success, we took in \$81,000, all the cars were sold and Kresfield did the food and did very well.

Ed Church spoke to the board regarding farmland preservation with reference to the county ending up as a sludge farm and also asked the board to be cautious about hawk migrations.

Susan said that sludge is not allowed on farms in the farmland preservation program.

James Meisner, a representative of the Phillipsburg National Bank, spoke to the board regarding the fact that the board tabled the \$50,000 revolving loan for Manhattan Bagel.

Susan said she still has concerns about the procedures for the revolving loans. We are still trying to straighten out the internal procedures.

Mrs. Stone said that it is not fair to hold this up, we can change the policy in the future.

Mr. Lance said we all want to promote loans.

Mrs. Dickey said that the executive committee does not have the authority to override the revolving loan committee itself. They went beyond the five year term, this was originally

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a ten year loan.

The gentleman from the bank said that this is a mortgage loan and calls for a longer term.

Mrs. Stone feels that we should move forward on this but the board will get information and try to straighten this out.

The owner of Manhattan Bagel said that he has put a lot of money in this building and he now want to buy the building. It is very frustrating, no one seems to know how to run this program.

Mr. Houck said that we need to take a look at the rules to ensure that there is no question of impropriety in the future.

Under press comments and questions, Art Charlton asked about Resolution #F2 and whether the county is providing this service. He was told yes and it is to our benefit to do this. We will reduce costs considerably by not having to transport inmates from the Jail to the Court House, especially if the hearing is a short hearing, five or ten minutes.

Mike Miller asked if the meeting with the library will be held in executive session and was told no, it will be in open session.

RESOLUTION 579-97

On motion by Mr. Lance, seconded by Mrs. Dickey, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held September 24, 1997.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF
CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO HOLD AN EXECUTIVE SESSION
ON SEPTEMBER 24, 1997. 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:

1. Various personnel matters
2. Contracts
3. Litigation
4. Land acquisition

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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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

Director Stone called for a five minute break at 8:22 p.m.

The board went into executive session at 8:35 p.m.

The board returned to open session at 9:00 p.m.

Tom Carney, Director of the Library and Lester Shotwell, Library Commission member, spoke to the board regarding the recent problems with library hours.

The basis dilemma is the increase in business and the decrease in staffing. The circulation has increased dramatically; as of August 1997, the headquarters was 61,000, the Franklin branch 95,000, the Catherine Dixon-Hoffman branch 78,000 and the North East branch 77,000.

Mr. Shotwell said they can't continue to absorb the increasing demand on services with a decreasing number of staff.

Mrs. Stone asked about the number of employees and Mr. Carney said there are 42 fulltime employees. There are three retirements coming up and he has one employee out very ill that may not be coming back. He has been meeting with Jerry Coyle to find a solution to this problem. They are using two of the CWEP people and have supported this program to the max. There is 70 hours of staffing per week that is needed.

Based on the first six months of the year, Monday is the busiest day, next is Wednesday, then Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Closing at 6:00 on Tuesday and Thursday and all day Saturday has been a major problem.

Ann Stone asked if they are asking for two fulltime people, is that what they need. Tom Carney pointed out that Alice Brandt is retiring next Tuesday. Mr. Shotwell said that they have to address the most immediate problem. Jerry said that they need one parttime and extend the hours of the other parttimers in the branches. The problem is the three retirees and the one who is out ill. Jerry said they have two vacancies that have not been filled. More pressing is the situation of the four vacant positions.

Mr. Carney said that circulation in the headquarter for a six month period was 61,224 and 10,000+ in IL loans processed over an eight month period.

Henry said that the numbers on circulation are not relevant. He asked why the library was not open on a regular basis. There are two senior library assistant positions that have not been filled. Why did it take this long to come forward. Lester said these positions were discussed at a freeholder meeting.

Henry said it shouldn't have taken three months to get to this point. They were never told that they couldn't fill the vacancies. Their assumption was not correct. The extension of hours is a viable solution. Also, reassign some of the employees. Get back to the regular hours and open Saturdays.

Henry asked why they closed all four libraries, they could have staggered the closings;

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two open on nights and Saturdays when the other two are closed and vice versa.

Tom Carney said that Melinda Carlton set-up a roster for student help. They have tried to operate the financial and business end with one person for the last year but they are falling behind. To resolve this, they could have a senior library assistant transfer in, out of title but an account clerk in that position would be more appropriate. They could put the senior library assistant back in service, that is added in the proposal.

Jerry said that idea should be held in abeyance.

Tom said that they reorganized the staff about a year ago. The bookmobile is being run by one person. Mr. Shotwell said that the commission suspended service of the bookmobile for the month of August. Mrs. Dickey asked what the bottom line is?

Mr. Carney said it would take 45 to 60 days to implement the proposal if they can hire now. He figures within two weeks they can reopen nights and Saturdays. They will add parttime people or bite the bullet with Jerry's proposal.

Henry said that the bottom line is to open the libraries! Overtime is ok on a short term basis, then look at the proposal.

Jerry suggested they go parttime until the end of the year.

Susan said the direction of the board is to open the libraries. Henry said implement Paragraph 1 and overtime is ok.

Tom said they will have them open hopefully by October 4th or October 11th at the latest.

Mr. Shotwell said they will restore normal hours a.s.a.p.

The bottom line is - change fulltime to parttime, increase the parttime hours to 70 hours, hire the new parttime position and reschedule the three parttimers to 70 hours.

Mr. Shotwell said that there is a commission meeting next week. He is not sure that this addresses the retirement that will occur next week.

The account clerk position will be vacant on Tuesday and Tom said that it has to be posted but that several staff members are interested.

On motion by Mr. Lance, 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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

ATTESTED TO:

Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk