

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 21, 2001

The Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren met in regular session in its offices in the Administration Building, Belvidere, New Jersey on Wednesday, February 21, 2001 at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Director DiMaio and upon roll call the following members were present: Freeholder John DiMaio, Freeholder Michael Doherty and Freeholder James DeBosh.

The Pledge Allegiance to the Flag was led by Director DiMaio.

Director DiMaio 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**".

Barry Smith, Director of Information Systems and Pete Houck, CFO, gave a presentation of the County Information Systems Technological Plan, Pentamation System, status update, network administration, communications services and future plans. A handout was submitted to the BCF.

At the conclusion, Mr. Doherty asked that Mr. Smith prepare a summary of where we are on all software in the county; a laundry list of what we have. Also, an inventory of hardware; PCs, telephones, servers, etc. Mr. Doherty would like to have a grasp of the entire dollar amount we are spending on technology in the county; also, maintenance costs.

Mr. Smith said we are probably spending \$600,000 - \$700,000 per year. The presentation ended at 9:05 p.m.

Under public comments on agenda items, Bob Shandor asked why no attorney has been appointed to the Planning Board. The resolution for the appointment of Guy Wilson was pulled from a prior agenda. Mr. Wilson needs to be notified as to whether he can attend meetings.

Mr. DiMaio said that Mr. Wilson can remain in a holdover position until a decision is made. There will be an answer in a week or two.

Mr. Shandor also had some issues involving procedure/protocol regarding distribution of funds through the Open Space Trust Fund. Mr. Houck and Mr. Shandor discussed this issue.

RESOLUTION 120-01

On motion by Mr. Doherty, seconded by Mr. DeBosh, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held February 21, 2001.

RESOLUTION TO PAY BILLS.

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Be and it is hereby resolved that Master Voucher Certificate
For Certification/Ratification for Payment No. 2001-7 dated February 21, 2001

In the amount of **\$777,899.22** including bills and
 Investments, is approved subject to the review of the vouchers
 By the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2001-7 | \$722,099.22 |
| 2-14-01 UNIFORM ALLOWANCE | <u>\$ 55,800.00</u> |
| GRAND TOTAL | <u>\$777,899.22</u> |

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.

Naomi J. Stout Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mr. DeBosh: yes Mr. Doherty: yes Mr. DiMaio: yes

ORDINANCE 121-01

On motion by Mr. DeBosh, seconded by Mr. Doherty, the following ordinance was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held February 21, 2001.

COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ORDINANCE
NUMBER 2001A

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CERTAIN CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENTS AND THE APPROPRIATION OF \$3,288,294
FROM THE WARREN COUNTY GENERAL CAPITAL
FUND BUDGET FOR SUCH PURPOSES

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS
OF THE COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all
members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The capital improvements described in Section 2(A) of this Ordinance are hereby authorized as General Improvements to be made by the County of Warren, New Jersey. There is hereby appropriated the sum of \$3,288,294 from the Capital Improvement Fund account in the General Capital Fund of the County of Warren for the said improvements or purposes stated in Section 2(A).

Section 2(A). The improvements hereby authorized and the proposed appropriations are for the following purposes:

| | | |
|-----|--|--------------|
| (1) | Road Resurfacing Improvements | \$ 1,352,200 |
| (2) | Road and Drainage Improvements Design, construct or reconstruct and improve various county roads and intersections. | \$ 379,000 |
| (3) | Bridge and Culvert Improvements Design, construct or reconstruct and improve various county bridges and culverts | \$ 290,000 |
| (4) | Equipment and Furnishings | \$ 247,094 |

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Acquisition of communications equipment, computer hardware and software, furniture and equipment

| | | |
|-----|---|---------------------|
| (5) | Buildings & Grounds Improvements Design, construct or renovate and improve various county facilities | \$ 411,500 |
| (6) | Specialty Vehicles and Maintenance and Construction Equipment Trucks, snowplows, sanders, tractors, mowers, and maintenance and heavy construction equipment | \$ 608,500 |
| | Total appropriations | <u>\$ 3,288,294</u> |

Section 2(B). The maximum amount of money to be appropriated for said purposes is \$3,288,294, no part of which is to be borrowed.

Section 3. The said purposes described in Section 2(A) of this Ordinance is not a Current Expense and are for the improvements or purposes as stated above, no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on the property benefited thereby.

Section 4. These appropriations are made as a result of the need to improve existing county infrastructure and facilities.

Section 5. This Ordinance shall be published, together with a Notice of Introduction thereof and of the Date of Final Passage in the manner provided by law. Final Passage is scheduled for Wednesday, March 14, 2001 at 8:15 PM., in the Freeholders Meeting Room, Wayne Dumont Jr. Administration Building, 165 County Road 519 South, Belvidere, New Jersey or at such other date and time to which it may be adjourned.

Section 6. At least one (1) week prior to the date set for Final Passage of this Ordinance, there shall be posted on the bulletin board of the Board of Chosen Freeholders, a copy of this Ordinance and a notice that copies of same will be made available upon request during the ensuing week up to and including the date set for final passage and the notice shall set forth the place at which such copies may be made available; and

Section 7. This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage as provided herein.

ADOPTED ON FIRST READING

DATED: February 21, 2001

Recorded Vote:

Freeholder Director DiMaio, Yes
Deputy Director Doherty, Yes
Freeholder DeBosh, Yes

NAOMI J. STOUT

Deputy Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders

ROLL CALL: Mr. DeBosh: yes Mr. Doherty: yes Mr. DiMaio: yes

RESOLUTION 122-01

On motion by Mr. DeBosh, seconded by Mr. Doherty, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held February 21, 2001.

RESOLUTION TO EXTEND THE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF HACKETTSTOWN AND THE WARREN COUNTY OPEN SPACE, RECREATION, FARMLAND AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND FROM FEBRUARY 23, 2001 TO JUNE 1, 2001.

WHEREAS, THE Warren County Municipal and Charitable Conservancy Trust Fund Committee has recommended to the Freeholder to grant funds from the Warren County Open

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Space Trust Fund Tax to the Town of Hackettstown (the applicant) in the amount of \$203,925 to acquire the Riverfront Park Project; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Chosen Freeholders has approved the recommendation; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Hackettstown has already received a twelve-month extension and due to delays by proceedings beyond the applicant's control the applicant has requested an additional extension to the grant period to June 1, 2001.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders grants a time extension to the Riverfront Park Project in the Town of Hackettstown.

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.

Naomi J. Stout Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mr. DeBosh: yes Mr. Doherty: yes Mr. DiMaio: yes

RESOLUTION 123-01

On motion by Mr. DeBosh, seconded by Mr. Doherty, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held February 21, 2001.

RESOLUTION TO AMEND GRANT AWARD FROM \$125,000 TO \$73,750 AND EXTEND THE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH RIDGE AND VALLEY CONSERVANCY, INC., AND THE WARREN COUNTY OPEN SPACE, RECREATION, FARMLAND AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND FROM FEBRUARY 23, 2001 TO JUNE 1, 2001.

WHEREAS, the Warren County Municipal and Charitable Conservancy Trust Fund Committee has recommended to the Freeholder to grant funds from the Warren County Open Space Trust Fund Tax to the Ridge and Valley Conservancy, Inc., (the applicant) in the amount of \$125,000 to preserve 220 acres associated with Tranquility Farms in Allamuchy Township; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Chosen Freeholders has approved the recommendation; and

WHEREAS, due to circumstances beyond the applicant's control the acres associated with this project has been reduced by 41% to 129.7 acres; and

WHEREAS, the Ridge and Valley Conservancy, Inc., has already received a twelve month extension and due to delays by proceedings beyond the applicant's control the applicant has requested an additional extension to the grant period to June 1, 2001.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders grants an amended grant award of \$73,750, and a time extension to June 1, 2001, to the Tranquility Farm Project in the Township of Allamuchy.

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.

Naomi J. Stout Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mr. DeBosh: yes Mr. Doherty: yes Mr. DiMaio: yes

RESOLUTION 124-01

On motion by Mr. DeBosh, seconded by Mr. Doherty, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held February 21, 2001.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE WARREN COUNTY CULTURAL AND HERITAGE COMMISSION TO APPLY FOR A GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT GRANT FOR A 12 MONTH PERIOD (JULY 1, 2001 - JUNE 30, 2002) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$37,817 TO THE NEW JERSEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION.

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:33A-1, the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders adopted a Resolution creating the Warren County Cultural and Heritage

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Commission on October 11, 1972; and

WHEREAS, the Warren County Cultural and Heritage Commission approved the submission of a grant application, in the amount of \$37,817, to the New Jersey Historical Commission;

WHEREAS, no county funds are needed to apply for this grant;

WHEREAS, these funds will allow the Commission to contract the services of Susan P. Morgan to perform the duties of History Coordinator/Director, and to re-grant funds to local Historical Societies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders does hereby authorize the Warren County cultural and Heritage Commission to apply for a General Operating Support Grant application in the amount of \$37,817 fore a 12 month period (July 1, 2001-June 30, 2002) to the New Jersey Historical Commission.

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.

Naomi J. Stout Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mr. DeBosh: yes Mr. Doherty: yes Mr. DiMaio: yes

County Counsel John Coyle had an item for executive session.

The County Engineer and the County Planner were not present.

County CFO Pete Houck attended a CFO meeting in Jamesburg on Friday and the topics were Early Retirement Initiative and the rate increase on institutional costs. He will have a report at the next meeting.

County Administrator Steve Marvin had two items for executive session.

Under freeholder comments, Mr. Doherty said that at the last meeting we talked about the total tax levy for Warren County. We have a total of approximately 100,000 residents, which is considerably lower than the populations of Hunterdon and Sussex. He would like to see an analysis of what we are spending; a comparative analysis of Hunterdon's and Sussex's budgets. What are we doing to arrive at such a high tax levy. What Mr. Doherty wants is the actual tax money collected.

Mr. Doherty also said he is interested in providing leadership from the BCF regarding recreation opportunities in Warren County, possibly the creation of a YMCA. He would like to take the lead on this.

Mr. Marvin suggested that Mr. Doherty reach out to Bill King, Supt. of Schools. Mr. DiMaio said that the County funds the VoTech and they have a gym there and there is property available in that area.

Mr. DeBosh had no comments.

Mr. DiMaio said that the Nutrition resolution will be on next week's agenda.

There were no public comments.

There were no press comments or questions.

RESOLUTION 125-01

On motion by Mr. DeBosh, seconded by Mr. Doherty, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held February 21, 2001.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO HOLD AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON FEBRUARY 21, 2001. THE GENERAL NATURE OF THE SUBJECT TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDES VARIOUS PERSONNEL MATTERS; LITIGATION; 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.
- 6. Public safety and property.

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.

Naomi J. Stout Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mr. DeBosh: yes Mr. Doherty: yes Mr. DiMaio: yes

The board went into executive session at 9:50 p.m.

The board returned to open session at 10:20 p.m.

Nothing discussed in executive session has lost its confidentiality.

On motion by Mr. DeBosh, seconded by Mr. Doherty, and there being no further official business to come before the board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 10:21 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Mr. DeBosh: yes Mr. Doherty: yes Mr. DiMaio: yes

ATTESTED TO:

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Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk