

MINUTES OF MEETING OF FEBRUARY 27, 2013

The budget meeting of the Frelinghuysen Township Committee was held in the Municipal Building, 210 Main Street, Johnsonburg, New Jersey on Wednesday, February 27, 2013 and was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Boynton.

SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT:

Under the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by posting notice on the township bulletin board and by e mailing notice to the New Jersey Herald and The Express Times.

ROLL CALL:

Those present were: Mayor David Boynton, Deputy Mayor Christopher Kuhn, Committeeman Frank Desiderio, Committeeman Alan DeCarolis, Committeeman Christopher Stracco (arriving at 6:16), Chief Finance Officer Gene Marie McCartney and Clerk Brenda Kleber.

RESOLUTIONS:

#2013-18 (Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act)

A RESOLUTION to Amend RESOLUTION 2013-16 urging the Governor of the State of New Jersey to oppose the expansion of New Jersey's Medicaid program as provided under the federal "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act."

WHEREAS, healthcare as provided currently in the United States is perhaps the most sought after and premium healthcare in terms of provision, care, and maintenance, in the world.

WHEREAS, the federal "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act," (ACA), Pub. L. 111-148, enacted into law on March 23, 2010, and amended by the federal "Health Care and Education Affordability Reconciliation Act of 2010," Pub.L.111-152, enacted into law on March 30, 2010, provides New Jersey with the opportunity, effective January 1, 2014, to increase its Medicaid income eligibility limit to 133% of the federal poverty level for all non-elderly adult citizens and lawful residents; unfortunately forcing the State to assume more, fiscally irresponsible and dangerous unfunded liabilities and mandates;

WHEREAS, New Jersey's participation in the Medicaid expansion would imprudently and irresponsibly make 307,000 adults without health insurance, above the federal and State poverty level eligible for Medicaid;

WHEREAS, the ACA provides an enhanced federal match for those states that participate in the Medicaid expansion, under which the federal match for State funds expended on newly eligible persons will be 100% from 2014-2016 with a phase down in subsequent years; Indiana Governor Mike Pence has referred to this as, "the classic gift of a baby elephant," the Federal Government will only pay for the funding in the first few years, leaving the State of New Jersey with further underfunded liabilities and mandates;

WHEREAS, in the Medicaid Expansion HHS can simply impose a blanket “maintenance and effort” rule that prohibits opting out – or any change once committed;

WHEREAS, a similar Medicaid Expansion in Wisconsin increased state spending 99% and proved so expensive that enrollment had to be capped, and eligible participants had to be wait-listed to join the program;

WHEREAS, the major increase in federal funding (approximately \$2 billion annually) associated with the Medicaid Expansion will leave the state of New Jersey with additional unfunded liabilities and mandates after the reduction of Federal Funding, which will likely occur after 2016;

WHEREAS, the federal funding associated with Medicaid Expansion will significantly increase the national debt to the detriment of the entire population of the United States;

WHEREAS, the “Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act,” (ACA), Pub. L. 111-148 is significantly unpopular with the American Public and opposed by a majority of the members of the Frelinghuysen Township Committee;

WHEREAS, in 2014 individuals and small businesses will be forced to buy the coverage that is 20% or 30% more expensive than their currently or existing coverage, some younger people will see premium inflation as high as 150% or 200%; and

WHEREAS, HHS will manage the exchanges in 32 states starting in October 2013 but has released only 19 pages of regulatory guidance leaving the entire Act so convoluted that the entire entitlement may seriously compromise the healthcare system, and healthcare in general, as provided in the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FRELINGHUYSEN TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE that:

1. Resolution 2013-16 be, and same hereby is, supplemented and amended by the within Resolution.
2. The Frelinghuysen Township Committee urges the Governor of State of New Jersey to oppose the expansion of the New Jersey Medicaid program as provided for under the federal “Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act,” (ACA), Pub. L. 111-148, and amended by the federal “Health Care and Education Affordability Reconciliation Act of 2010,” Pub.L.111-152.
3. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk of the Township of Frelinghuysen, Warren County, shall be transmitted to the Governor.

Motion was made by Kuhn, seconded by Stracco to adopt said resolution. Roll call vote: Boynton-yes, Desiderio-abstain, DeCarolis-yes, Kuhn-yes, Stracco-yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

The CFO asked the Committee if the pay period could be changed in order to comply with pension regulations for a semi-monthly pay period on the 15th and 30th of each month. Motion was made by Desiderio, seconded by DeCarolis approving the change. All were in favor.

Committeeman Desiderio advised he got a figure for the cost of a time clock. The cost would be \$408.00 for the clock and \$68.00 for the cards. This was put on hold.

An e mail letter from Dorothy Marra, who heads the Julaine Williams Award, asked if the township could take over this function as the school superintendent is asking why it is a school obligation. The cost is less than \$100.00 and the majority of the winners have done work on the Recreation Committee. Motion was made by Desiderio to have the township take over. There was no second. Motion was made by Kuhn, seconded by DeCarolis to write a letter to the school informing them that the township is not qualified to administer the award. All were in favor.

The Mayor brought up the issue of a driveway on Bear Creek Road that fills the cross drain with dirt when it rains. He would like to know how the committee would like to address this situation. Committeeman Desiderio recommended getting a quote on a vac truck which will be used on all drains in the township. Mr. Desiderio will obtain the quotes.

At this time, Committeeman Desiderio left the meeting in order to attend another meeting.

The Clerk reported on an e mail from a company named SwiftReach Networks who operate a mass notification system used by municipalities to deliver time sensitive information to residents via voice, text or email. The Clerk will check this out.

A copy of a letter to the NJDEP regarding the Frelinghuysen Forest Preserve advising them that the township will be doing work on a culvert starting March 12, 2013 and ending March 14, 2013 was read. After discussion, motion was made by Kuhn, seconded by DeCarolis authorizing Frank, Alan or DPW Employee to operate a backhoe begin the work between March 12th and March 14th. All were in favor.

A discussion of the formation of the Land Use Board was held. Deputy Mayor Kuhn recommended that everyone be offered the opportunity to submit a resume for the secretary, attorney, planner and engineer position. The Clerk advised that the second reading of the ordinance will be published on February 25th, therefore, the reorganization meeting can be held on Monday March 18, 2013.

BUDGET:

The Committee finalized the capital projects along with the O/E line items. Another meeting will be held on March 7th with the auditor.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION-none

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda J. Kleber, RMC