

**CAMDEN COUNTY
BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS MEETING
FEBRUARY 19, 2009 - 7:00 P.M.
LAWNSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOL
426 CHARLESTON AVENUE, LAWNSIDE, NJ**

The meeting was called to order by Freeholder Director Louis Cappelli at 7:00 p.m. The Director asked the Clerk to call the roll and the following Freeholders answered to their name:

PRESENT: CREAM, GRECO, NASH, RIPA, RODRIGUEZ, CAPPELLI
ABSENT: MCDONNELL

The Director stated that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

The Director asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. The National Anthem was performed by Ms. Clark of the Lawnside Public School.

The Director announced that if requested, the County has large print agendas for the visually impaired. She said if you require large print, please see the Clerk.

Director Cappelli welcomed everyone. He said we are very pleased tonight to be in the historic Borough of Lawnside. He said it is the usual practice of the Board of Freeholders to hold our meeting each month in one of our municipalities outside the County Seat of Camden so that all members of the public will have full access to the meetings of the Board.

PRESENTATIONS

The Director said as is our tradition we are going to ask the Mayor and members of Council to come forward for a presentation. He called upon Freeholders Nash and Rodriguez to come forward as well.

The Director said Mayor Bryant is unable to be here this evening but three members of Council have joined us and we will make presentations to them tonight. Director Cappelli said Lawnside is a very historic and progressive community. Its ties to the area's history are well documented. He said the future of Lawnside is something that is just as bright as it's past. Some progressive measures being taken by the Mayor and Council have led to some great new development in Lawnside – some great new tax rateable's and he said he knows there are more on the horizon. The Director congratulated the members of Council and thanked them for all the hard work they do each year.

The Director said the residents of Lawnside work very hard as well. They work hard at recycling and over the past year, the residents of Lawnside were able to recycle 209 tons of paper, commingled glass, metal and plastic bottles and because of their efforts we are able to present to the Borough of Lawnside a rebate check in the amount of \$2,135.00. Freeholder Nash presented Council with the check.

The Director then said Freeholder Rodriguez has come bearing gifts as well. She has the Lawnside Community Development Block Grant municipal fund check which this year totals \$24,281.00. Freeholder Rodriguez presented Council with that check.

Councilwoman Mary Ann Wardlow welcomed everyone to Lawnside. The Councilwoman said on behalf of the Mayor and Borough Council, she introduced Willa Coletrane and Councilman

Clinton Higgs. She said we thank you for coming and we welcome you and we know that you are always happy when you come back to Lawnside because you are always coming home. Thank you again. Thank you also for the checks!

GIFT DONATION

The Director said as we go from town to town, we ask the governing body to give us the name of a non-profit organization in town that is doing outstanding work and deserving of a small donation from the Board of Freeholders, and the governing body has chosen the Lawnside Volunteer Fire Company to receive a small donation tonight.

Director Cappelli called upon Michael Harper to come forward. The Director said the Lawnside Volunteer Fire Company was organized in 1912. There are presently 25 active volunteer firemen – many of whom are second and third generation. He said this is a very outstanding and long tradition here in Lawnside. The Director said the Lawnside Volunteer Fire Company has two pieces of apparatus that they use to go out on calls – fighting fires, transporting the Jaws of Life, cleaning up chemical spills and serving the community at large. They participate at fire prevention activities at local schools and do all the great things that volunteer firemen do throughout Camden County and the State of New Jersey. He said these firemen have a 100 percent volunteer life or death job and they unselfishly give their time to the community and its residents every day. To Mr. Harper, the Director said on behalf of the Board of Freeholders, I would like to present you with this small donation and Certificate of Recognition.

Mr. Harper said on behalf of Lawnside Fire Company, I would like to thank the Board of Freeholders for this donation.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Freeholder Greco called upon Matthew Rebecca to come forward. Freeholder Greco said each month the Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders selects an Employee of the Month. This month it is my pleasure and honor to recognize Matthew Rebecca. Freeholder Greco said Matthew has been a citizen of Camden County for the last 25 years. He has been married to his wife, Roseann, for thirty years and together they have four children – all of whom live in the area. He said Matthew and Roseann are the proud grandparents of two grandchildren. Matt and Roseann like to travel and one of their favorite spots is Fort Lauderdale, Florida (I guess because there's no snow-plowing there). Matt is civic minded and he has given back to his community of Stratford. He is a past councilman of the Borough of Stratford and is presently a member of the Stratford County Committee. Matt started his employment in Camden County as a laborer and has been promoted to a truck driver. At work Matt is known as a team player, responsible and a quiet man. In addition, Matt is punctual, does what he is asked to do and then he does more than that. His current position takes him all over Camden County – sometimes traveling from the Southern part of the County, throughout all areas of the County for other assignments. He takes the initiative and finds solutions in any situation and problem that may arise during the day. Matt's work is consistent and always completed in a timely manner. He is a true asset to the Department of Public Works and the Highway Department. Freeholder Greco said it is my pleasure to introduce Matt and say congratulations and provide him with a small token of our appreciation.

Matt thanked the Freeholders for this award. He thanked his co-workers and his supervisors. He said he is thankful during these economic times to be able to come to work everyday and have a job. Thank you very much!

CERTIFICATES

Director Cappelli introduced a special guest from the United States Marshal's Office, Jim Plosis, to come forward.

Mr. Plosis thanked the Director and the Freeholders for having him here this evening. He said he wanted to give a brief overview of why he is here this evening. He said he is the United States Marshal for the District of New Jersey. He said many of you may have read about a project that we did back in November called "Fugitive Safe Surrender". He said it was a huge success – 2,245 people surrendered that day, peacefully, clearing up over 7,000 warrants – not only people wanted in Camden County but throughout New Jersey. It was really a win-win situation. Twelve cities have done it. Camden County had the most per population of any city in the country. It was truly a team effort, not only the County Freeholders but the Sheriff's Office, the Prosecutor's Office, the Corrections Department. Also, a variety of over 100 faith-based churches in your area participated as well. It was truly a win-win. He said he wanted to come here this evening to thank the Freeholders for their efforts. There were countless meetings and countless loose ends that we had to tie together but it was truly a win-win. He said he has been the Marshal for the last seven years. We have been trying to do a lot of things in Camden and we hear a lot of negative things about Camden and Camden County but this truly was a bright spot. To think that 2,245 people surrendered peacefully, we had absolutely no incidents whatsoever – only ten went to jail and the rest were processed and were released. Most of them are doing productive things as we speak. It was truly a win-win. He said everybody got involved, the Salvation Army, the faith-based community, the synagogues called to help. You really have a spirit of community in Camden County. He said I wanted to come in to thank the Freeholder Board but especially Sheriff Chuck Billingham and his staff. They worked non-stop literally from 6:00 a.m. in the morning until 10:00 p.m. at night to accommodate the overflow numbers that nobody expected. He said just to give you an idea; Rochester New York did it a few months prior to us. Rochester has 175,000 people in Rochester; they only had 209 people surrender. We had a much smaller city we were dealing with and we had over 2,245 people surrender. It was truly a huge success. I can't thank the Sheriff enough. It took us a lot of time to get this off the ground but it was really a win-win. It was cost-effective for myself, the Marshall Service and the Sheriff's Office to try to run down 2,245 people, it literally would have cost millions of dollars and plus incarcerating them. These guys, most of them, got a second chance. He thanked the Freeholders for all their efforts and he made a presentation to the Sheriff. On behalf of the Marshal Service, thank you for your help.

Sheriff Billingham said he would also like to begin by thanking the Freeholder Board for their support in this matter. He said he has been in law enforcement for 27 plus years and is a retired Chief of Police. He said this was the most incredible, largest scale event that he has ever been involved in and it was so incredible to work with all the agencies. The one story that he said he wanted to point out is on this past Sunday, he went to City Hall in Camden where his office is located. The Sheriff said while I was knocking on the door to try and get in to the building, the gentleman delivering Pizza and sandwiches approached him and said I have to get in to deliver. The Sheriff said I don't have a phone number for the security and the delivery person said I do because they just ordered. The Sheriff asked him to call them to tell them the Sheriff is out here and he wants to get into his office. The delivery person called and the Sheriff said I don't think they rushed because I wanted to get in my office, I think they rushed because of the Pizza and hoagies. The Sheriff said when I was waiting for them to come, this gentleman said to me, "Are you really the Sheriff of Camden County", I said, "Yes, I am". The Sheriff said this man said, "I want to thank you for saving my life – you ran Fugitive Safe Surrender and I was wanted for so long and I was able to go there, turn myself in safely, pay my debt to society and now get a job". The Sheriff said I have

heard that story over and over! This program was so awesome. He thanked the Marshal, the Freeholders and especially his officers. The Sheriff asked the Officers to come forward. He said he knows the Director and the Freeholder Liaison, Freeholder Ripa want to say a few words about thanking the men and women of the Sheriff's Office who are not just officers but civilians. He said we have commendations from the Freeholders, the Sheriff's Office and from the U.S. Marshal Service.

Freeholder Ripa said on behalf of the Board of Chosen Freeholders, I want to thank not just the Marshal but also Sheriff Billingham and all of his officers, Sheriff's Officers and some of the Officers from the Department of Corrections. He said some volunteered to help on their days off. To all of you who contributed to this successful safe surrender program, I am indebted to you for a long time and I want to thank you on behalf of the Board of Chosen Freeholders. Thank you so much and God bless you all. The Sheriff said there were 31 officers to be recognized but unfortunately most of them couldn't make it because I am not paying overtime. Additionally, the two officers at the end of the row, Investigator Steve Pollan, Investigator Jose Cintron, recently arrested a wanted murderer who was wanted for many years and no one could track him down. These two guys were out there, they beat the street, they were awesome, and it was the most phenomenal job I have ever seen. Congratulations to both of you! The Sheriff then recognized Sheriff's Officers, Rich Jones, Michael Casey, Dave Navara, Steve Pollan and Jose Cintron. He congratulated them and said you make me so proud!

COMMUNITY AWARD

Freeholder Rodriguez said every so often there is an organization or individual in the community that does something really worthy of recognition. This month it has come to our attention that there is such an organization right here in Lawnside and that is the Mt. Peace Cemetery Association. Freeholder Rodriguez called forward Yolanda Romero, the Board Secretary and Councilwoman Mary Ann Wardlow. Also joining them were Fred Williams and Earl Wardlow who are also on the Board.

Freeholder Rodriguez said if you spend any time driving on the White Horse Pike you will have noticed a little cemetery just at the end of the historic community Lawnside. It is called Mt. Peace Cemetery. It was dedicated during the second half of the 19th Century. She said in those dark days of discrimination, racial segregation at a burial was practiced. Mt. Peace is slightly more than 11 acres and is the largest of several cemeteries operated by African Americans. It is the final resting place of heroes; many black civil war veterans were buried there as well as a Medal of Honor recipient, John Lawson, who served in the United States Navy. For years dedicated Lawnside residents have been lobbying to have this place of peace registered as a New Jersey and National Historic place. In June, 2008, after a huge effort by both the Mt. Peace Cemetery Association and the Lawnside Historic Society, it was finally officially recognized by both the National and State Registers of Historic places. For this, the Board of Chosen Freeholders wishes to acknowledge this organization and presents them with a Proclamation. Freeholder Rodriguez read the Proclamation.

Ms. Wardlow thanked everyone and said this is a great chance to do so. We have Lawnsiders who also come out and volunteer to help us, but we need help to clean up this cemetery and keep it going the way it looks now. Most of all, she said, she wanted to thank Mr. Romero and Mr. George Meade and most of all Bryson Armstead. They were the original ones who went to Court to fight and make sure that we could get the money and the funding to help us to support keeping that cemetery in the way it is now. She said we all accept this. She said Yolanda is Mr. Romero's daughter and Mr. Romero fought so hard for the longest time. They all worked very hard to go to Court to get that funding. She said I congratulate them. I only keep the books that is all I do. She thanked her husband for supporting her in everything she does. She said we really need young people out there. The gentlemen who are now supporting this Board are in their late 60's going into their 70's.

She said we lost three of them so far. She said we are losing another one because he can't out like he used to, and that is Mr. Armstead. She said Mr. Armstead has fought so hard in this town for so many things but I want to take this in his honor right now because he is living and he is not able to make it here tonight. She said Mr. Earl Jenkins who is also out there every Saturday, these guys take turns going out there raking and monitoring and make sure that that area is cleaned up. She said for me, I thank everybody but for them I am going to give them a chance to speak.

Ms. Romero said Mary Ann said it all, thank you very much!

PROCLAMATION

Director Cappelli came forward and said he asked Freeholder Greco and the Executive Director of the Camden County Improvement Authority Fred Weinstein to join him. The Director said we are taking this opportunity tonight to give thanks to an individual who has given years of service to the Camden County Improvement Authority as a member of the Board of Commissioners, Mr. Sam Siler. The Director asked Mr. Siler to come forward. Director Cappelli said Sam has dedicated his life to Public Service going back to the 1960's when he served in both the Army and the Air Force. He fought in Viet Nam and was awarded a Bronze Star during his service in the Military. Later he was elected to Council in Gloucester Township where he was repeatedly elected and re-elected as Council President and then decided to give service as a volunteer to the Camden County Improvement Authority as a member of the Board of Commissioners. He has done that since 2001. He has decided to retire after his years of service. The Director said tonight we are thanking you and recognizing you for the outstanding work you have done. As liaison to the Improvement Authority, I have witnessed first hand your integrity, dedication to the residents of Camden County and your hard work. I just want to thank you for that. Congratulations! Director Cappelli then called upon Freeholder Greco to say a few words.

Freeholder Greco said he started his political career in Gloucester Township as a member of the Gloucester Township Council and Sam was the President of that Council and without his leadership and his inspiration, I wouldn't be where I am today. I just wanted to be here and say congratulations again to you Sam and to Joyce, his wife. He said the power behind the Colonel is this woman right here. Sam, you are a wonderful man, congratulations!

Fred Weinstein said it has been my pleasure to serve on the Improvement Authority with you for a number of years. You are a true gentleman and thank you for your dedication and service. Mr. Weinstein thanked Joyce for coming to every event that they ever had.

Mr. Siler thanked the Director and the Freeholder Board and our Gloucester Township home-grown Freeholder, Rod Greco, for this award. He said he also would like to thank the Camden County Improvement Authority and employees for their service during the time that he served there. He especially thanked Fred Weinstein, Executive Director of the Authority, for recommending him for this award. He thanked his wife for her support during these years. He said this award will be a constant reminder of the days best spent at the Camden County Improvement Authority. He thanked everyone for coming.

PROCLAMATION

Freeholder Cream welcomed everyone. She thinks everyone knows that February is Black History Month. It is the month set aside by our country to celebrate the wonderful accomplishments of Blacks all across this nation. The Camden County Freeholder Board every year takes time out to acknowledge the wonderful attributes, accomplishments that some of our Blacks have done throughout our County. It is also something that we love to have here in this wonderful town of Lawnside because being in Lawnside brings so many

wonderful thoughts back to all of us. It is the town settled by Blacks, run by Blacks and is one of the most outstanding municipalities in this County because what Blacks have done in this community. She said she is very honored tonight to bring to your attention a young man, who has done much in our community to make this a great place to live. Freeholder Cream then called Reverend Calvin R. Woods to come forward. The Freeholder said she thinks that everyone knows the accomplishments that Black People have made in this country have been because of the work that a lot of our wonderful Black Ministers have done throughout the years. Reverend Calvin Woods is no exception! Freeholder Cream said, "He is to me a young person and I say young because he really is, not only as a Minister but he helps out in the community, he does things to help people less fortunate and he takes out of his church into the areas the things that are needed for people. That is why we have designated Reverend Calvin Woods as being one of the great Black Ministers in our municipality. She said we are very proud of you Reverend Woods. She said if you just listen to some of his accomplishments, I think you will understand why he was chosen. Freeholder Cream said he earned his Bachelors Degree in Arts from Glassboro State College, now called Rowan University. He completed the United Methodist Pastoral School at Wesley Seminary and then went on to obtain a Masters Degree at Rowan also. Ever the scholar, he was never satisfied with one accomplishment. He continued his studies at Rutgers State University, Temple University, Cordon-Conwell Seminary, the New York Theological School and Princeton Seminary. She said he spent 37 years as a professional educator so he and I have always had a lot in common. He was a math teacher at Cherry Hill High School. She said you don't usually find Ministers being math teachers but we are very happy to have Reverend Woods attain that wonderful accomplishment. He also taught math at the Martin Luther King Scholars Program at Glassboro where he was an adjunct instructor. Having begun his Pastoral duties in 1965, Reverend Woods still serves both St. John and Parkside United Methodist Church. She said I don't know how he gets all the energy. He pastors one church in Camden, leaves that church in the afternoon and pastors another church in Berlin, New Jersey. You can see he is just a man that is constantly on the go doing things to help other people. Freeholder Cream said it is fitting that this Freeholder Board acknowledge your efforts because you have proven that you can take what you have, share them with other people to help make young people better, old people better and the communities in which they live better. Freeholder Cream said in honor of Black History Month, we do urge the citizens of our County to join all of us tonight in congratulating you and hoping that your life will be one that others will certainly try to exemplify. Thank you, Reverend Woods.

Reverend Woods said the best thing I can say is, "A life of service is the dues you pay to be alive". If God has given you the gift of life, you owe something to this world, give the best back to it. Thank you for this honor.

PROCLAMATION

Freeholder Nash said also in honor of Black History Month we are so honored to recognize one of the great leaders of Camden County, a person whom I have served with for many years, a person who has led one of our County agencies to new heights and that is Doreen Dixon. He asked her to come forward. The Freeholder said in a time that we are talking about reducing the size of government and making sure that we are holding the line on taxes and fees, there is a person who got that many years ago. About 13 years ago, there was talk in this County about raising the CCMUA rate to over \$140.00 per year and at that time the CCMUA was thought of as an agency that was double billing and over charging and wasn't doing anything about the environment. Who did we call upon, we called on Doreen Dixon, a professional financial advisor, who lived in Cherry Hill at the time and since moved to Voorhees. She took hold of that agency that was predominantly male-run forever. He

said we called upon Doreen; she took hold of that agency and has turned it around, and 13 years later, the rate is still the same as from the day she came into the door. She has held the line on the CCMUA rate for 13 consecutive years. She has consolidated the office so that there is less administrative spending and she has those guys in line! She has become one of the great leaders of our community. She has set the example, not only for Camden County and the College and all the agencies that we deal with, but throughout the State and that is why in her professional career she is an investigator for the gaming industry. There is no better job for her. Freeholder Nash said let me tell you a little bit more about why she is receiving this award. She earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Administration from Rutgers University, a Masters in Accounting from Widener University, a graduate certificate in Public Finance from the Fells Institute. With over 25 years in the financial community, she has been singled out for numerous prestigious awards such as the Financial Fortitude Award and the Twenty-Five Years of Dedicated Service Award. The Delta Sigma Sorority for Outstanding Woman of Achievement. He said many of her sisters are here today, Camden County Girl Scouts and the National Chairman Award, the National Black MBA Association, Inc. and the YMCA Twin Tribute to Women and Industry Award. He said she served as both the Chair and the Commissioner for the CCMUA. She helped set policy, develop programs and budgets; interacted with management and teams of six officers responsible for 145 employees. For all of those reasons, from your friends and your family that are here to celebrate with you, we want to congratulate you for this great achievement. Doreen Dixon said I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Freeholder Board for allowing me to serve, especially Freeholder Cream, who has been an inspiration in my educational life. She inspired me to soar to the highest heights in education and never forget where I came from, Camden, because there are good things and good people that come out of Camden. She said I am always proud to say that I am from Camden. She acknowledged her family, her brother, sister-in-law, her four children that she loves to death and her sorority sisters and a host of other friends and colleagues in Camden County. Thank you so much for being here tonight and thank you for the recognition. She gave a special thank you to the Freeholder Board for allowing her to serve.

The Director said at our Freeholder meeting last month, there were additional first readings of resolutions for County Bond Projects. He said we are no longer planning to adopt all of these resolutions; therefore, it is not necessary to proceed with the second reading or public hearing on all of these matters. We will, however, proceed with the following:

i. PUBLIC HEARING – RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF CAMDEN IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY SERVING TO AMEND AND RESTATE A GUARANTY RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING THE GUARANTY BY THE COUNTY OF CERTAIN BONDS OR NOTES ISSUED BY THE CAMDEN COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY IN ORDER TO REFUND CERTAIN PRIOR BONDS OF THE AUTHORITY ISSUED TO FINANCE EQUIPMENT, ACQUISITIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN, BY AND FOR THE COUNTY.

The Director noted that basically we are refunding these bonds in order to have a savings because of the low interest rate. This year the saving will be about \$500,000.

The Director declared the public hearing open on this resolution. Seeing no one from the public wishing to comment, Freeholder Ripa made a motion to close the public portion with a second by Freeholder Rodriguez. All freeholders present voted aye.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION i

The Director asked for a motion to adopt Resolution i. Freeholder Rodriguez made a motion to adopt with a second by Freeholder Cream and on roll call, all Freeholders present voted aye.

MINUTES

The Director said the next order of business is the Minutes of our previous meeting and asked for a motion to accept the Minutes as presented. Freeholder Greco made a motion to adopt the Minutes with a second by Freeholder Rodriguez and on roll call:

AYE: CREAM, GRECO, NASH, RIPA, RODRIGUEZ
ABSTAIN: CAPPELLI

CORRESPONDENCE

The Director then asked the Clerk of the Board if there was any correspondence. The Clerk answered that there was correspondence. The Clerk stated that Surrogate Patricia Jones asked her to read a letter that was sent to her office and the Clerk read as follows:

"I am very pleased to give you my comments on the service of the Camden County Surrogate's Court. My dear mother passed away in late December and we were overwhelmed with grief, funeral arrangements and paperwork. I was not looking forward to calling the court but was told that we needed to do it.

To my surprise and amazement the phone was answered by a live person who was extremely sweet and knowledgeable. She told me exactly what to do and what to bring. She was so cheerful and courteous. This made me feel better already. When we actually arrived in the Court, we were greeted by a lovely person who made us feel comfortable. Then to top it off, we dealt with a fantastic woman, named Ameenah Rasheed. She was so comforting to me. I was still so upset about my mother's death. How blessed we were to have Ameenah handle our paperwork and chat with us.

I cannot thank all of you enough for your support and efficiency. I have told everyone about this positive experience.

Sincerely,
Cheryl Ann Green
Cherry Hill, NJ

COMPTROLLER

The Director asked for a motion to adopt the Comptroller's Report. Freeholder Rodriguez made a motion to adopt the Comptroller's Report with a second by Freeholder Cream and on roll call, all Freeholders present voted aye.

The Director announced that the next portion of this meeting is open to the public for discussion on the Resolutions that the Freeholders are going to be acting upon this evening. He said there will be another public session after the meeting, at which time the public can ask any questions they want regarding the business of the County or anything else they wish to talk about. The Director said that he asks that this portion of the public hearing be limited to the Resolutions that the Freeholders are going to be voting on.

The Director then declared the public hearing open.

Karl Walko, President of Council #10, addressed the Freeholders regarding Resolution 2. He said since Council #10 represents both the City and the County and since I am very familiar with the problem the City Courtrooms have, I am interested in this Resolution. However, he said, he is also interested in how this gets done and how the money moves around. He said he knows there are some issues with the elevators. Mr. Walko said he would like to get a sense as to when action goes forward, who is left with the bill at the end of the day. Mr. Angilella responded and said the money for this project is coming from the City and they will be giving us the full \$3 million cash prior to the award. Mr. Walko said he also has questions about Resolution 57 which he will put in writing because he knows there will be questions coming to him and he will address it with and through Human Resources and County Counsel.

The Director asked if there was any further comment.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak, the Director asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Freeholder Ripa made a motion to close the public portion with a second by Freeholder Cream and all Freeholders present voted aye.

The Director said that at our Caucus on Tuesday evening, the Board of Freeholders reviewed the resolutions to be acted upon tonight. He said it was at that time that the Board discussed items to be voted on and we will be voting on resolutions in blocks based on unanimous consent of the Freeholders.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions 1 through 9 were adopted upon motion by Freeholder Ripa with a second by Freeholder Rodriguez and on roll call, all Freeholders present voted aye.

1. Resolution extending Bid A-34 for copy and computer paper, envelopes and supplies for six months, through August 31, 2009.
2. Resolution authorizing an award of contract (Bid A-71), by and between the County of Camden (Department of Buildings & Operations) and D'Astuto Construction, Inc., for the construction of the new Municipal Courtrooms and associated support facilities at the Camden City Hall/Camden County Courthouse, in an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000.00.
3. Resolution authorizing a month to month contract, pursuant to a negotiated bid, by and between the County of Camden (Department of Buildings & Operations) and Nextel Communications of the Mid Atlantic, Inc. for cellular phone service and related equipment, pending procurement of these services.
4. Resolution authorizing payment pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a) on behalf of the Camden County Library Commission to Innovative Interfaces, Inc. for the provision of software and software maintenance in an amount not to exceed \$105,000.00 – CAF #9900144579 for \$23,688.00. Balance of funding is contingent upon the availability and appropriation of funds in the 2009 temporary and/or permanent budgets.
5. Resolution authorizing an award of contract (Bid A-1), by and between the County of Camden (Department of Public Works) and Artcraft Sign Studio for the provision of signs for the Fairview Gateway Improvement Project, in an amount not to exceed \$15,883.50 – CAF #9900144537.

6. Resolution authorizing an award of contract, by and between the County of Camden (Department of Public Works) and Pedroni Fuel Co., (State Contract A-65041) for the purchase and delivery of unleaded fuel.

7. Resolution authorizing an award of contract, by and between the County of Camden (Department of Public Works) and Majestic Fuel Co., (State Contract A-41864) for the purchase and delivery of diesel fuel.

8. Resolution authorizing an award of contract, by and between the County of Camden (Department of Public Works) and Cherry Valley Tractor Sales of Marlton (State Contract A-68366) for the purchase of an all purpose tractor and rotary mower, in an amount not to exceed \$71,664.49 – CAF #9900144529.

9. Resolution ratifying an Agreement, by and between the County of Camden (Department of Public Works) and Public Service Electric & Gas Co., for the provision of electric street lighting services for the Lanning Square Project, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(f).

Resolution 10 was adopted upon motion by Freeholder Cream with a second by Freeholder Rodriguez and on roll call:

10. Resolution authorizing a Jurisdictional Agreement #4641, by and between the County of Camden (Department of Public Works) and New Jersey Department of Transportation for Route 30 Cooper River Drainage Improvement in the Township of Pennsauken.

AYE: CREAM, GRECO, NASH, RODRIGUEZ, CAPPELLI

ABSTAIN: RIPA

ABSENT: MCDONNELL

Resolutions 11 through 17 were adopted upon motion made by Freeholder Ripa with a second by Freeholder Rodriguez and on roll call, all Freeholders present voted aye.

11. Resolution authorizing a Shared Services Agreement, by and between the County of Camden (Department of Public Works) and the Borough of Runnemede for pedestrian safety improvements along Evesham Road (CR 544) in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 – CAF #9900144530.

12. Resolution authorizing County consent to Ordinance #0-08-39, adopted by the Township of Gloucester.

13. Resolution reappointing members to the Camden County Planning Board.

14. Resolution authorizing personnel actions requested by or on behalf of Freeholder Greco.

15. Resolution authorizing an award of contract, by and between the County of Camden (Department of Parks) and Warnock Automotive (State Contract A-71012) for the purchase of two (2) Ford pick-up trucks, in an amount not to exceed \$64,213.68 – CAF #9900144642.

16. Resolution amending the 2009 Camden County Parks Department Fee Schedule, the 2009 Site Use Application & Permit, and the Wiggins Park Marina Rules, Boat Space Rental Agreement, and Slip Rental Permit.

17. Resolution amending an award of contract adopted 9/27/2007, pursuant to a publicly advertised Request For Proposals, by and between the County of Camden (Department of Parks) and CMX Engineering for the provision of additional engineering services relative to Timber Creek Park, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 – CAF #9900144627.

Resolutions 18 and 19 were adopted upon motion made by Freeholder Ripa with a second by Freeholder Cream and on roll call:

18. Resolution authorizing payment, pursuant to an Agreement (Resolution #22, adopted March 17, 2005) by the County of Camden (Department of Parks) to Cooper's Ferry Development Association for the Camden Urban Waterfront Park Project, in the amount of \$200,000.00 – CAF#9900144643.

19. Resolution authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding, by and between the County of Camden and Cooper's Ferry Development Association for a joint landscaping project on the Camden Waterfront, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 – CAF #9900144570.

AYE: CREAM, GRECO, RIPA RODRIGUEZ,
ABSTAIN: NASH, CAPPELLI
ABSENT: MCDONNELL

Resolution 20 was adopted upon motion made by Freeholder Rodriguez with a second by Freeholder Cream and on roll call:

20. Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the recommendation of the Open Space Preservation Trust Fund Advisory Committee to preserve the Ray Shendock property (Block 95, Lots 11 and 85) in the Township of Waterford, in an amount not to exceed \$326,040.00 - CAF #9900144666.

AYE: CREAM, GRECO, NASH, RODRIGUEZ, CAPPELLI
ABSTAIN: RIPA
ABSENT: MCDONNELL

Resolutions 21 through 37 were adopted upon motion made by Freeholder Greco with a second by Freeholder Rodriguez and on roll call, all Freeholders present voted aye.

21. Resolution authorizing an award of contract (Bid A-5) by and between the County of Camden (Division of Environmental Affairs) and Clean Ventures, Inc., for the provision of Household Hazardous Waste Removal Services in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 - CAF #9900144644 for \$50,000.00. Balance of funds is contingent upon the availability and appropriation of funds in the 2009 temporary and/or permanent budgets.

22. Resolution authorizing personnel actions requested by or on behalf of Freeholder Nash.

23. Resolution authorizing a substitution in the amount of \$21,000.00 to provide funding for the purchase of ovens for the Camden County Correctional Facility.

24. Resolution authorizing competitive contracting pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.1 for the procurement of software, hardware, and related services for the County of Camden (Department of Corrections, and Department of Public safety and Juvenile Justice) GPS Tracking System Project.

25. Resolution authorizing payment, by and between the County of Camden (Department of Corrections) and Municipal Maintenance Co., for the emergency replacement of a water pump, in an amount not to exceed \$22,990.00 - CAF #9900144707.

26. Resolution authorizing payment, by the County of Camden (Office of the Sheriff) to the Institute for Forensic Psychology for testing of Sheriff's Officer Applicants in an amount not to exceed \$6,715.00. Funds are available in the 2009 reserve fund.

27. Resolution authorizing award of contracts, pursuant to a publicly advertised Request For Proposals, for the provision of Special Counsel Services for Sheriff's Deed preparation.

28. Resolution authorizing an award of contract (Bid A-48, 2nd year option), by and between the County of Camden (Office of the Sheriff) and PTS America, LLC for the provision of extradition services, in the amount of \$10,000.00- CAF #9900144208. Additional funding is contingent upon the availability and appropriation of funds in the 2009 temporary and/or permanent budgets, and pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5(b)(2).

29. Resolution authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding, by and between the County of Camden (Office of the Sheriff) and Virtua Health Mobile Intensive Care Unit (VHMIC) to provide medical support to the Camden County Sheriff's Emergency Response Team (SERT).

30. Resolution authorizing an award of contract (Bid A-3), by and between the County of Camden (Department of Public Safety) and ACS Government Services Inc., for the provision of fire records management software, in an amount not to exceed \$399,445.00 – CAF #9900144511.

31. Resolution authorizing an award of contract (Bid A-16, 2nd yr. option), by and between the County of Camden (Department of Public Safety) and Cross Current Corp., for maintenance of the stratus file system servers, in an amount not to exceed \$27,185.00 – CAF #990014430.

32. Resolution authorizing an award of contract by and between the County of Camden (Department of Public Safety) and Tektron Corp., (State Contract A-69909) for the purchase of 9-1-1 equipment and consoles, in an amount not to exceed \$114,639.26 – CAF #9900144520.

33. Resolution authorizing an award of contract by and between the County of Camden (Department of Public Safety) and Motorola (State Contract A-53804) for the purchase of radio equipment in an amount not to exceed \$34,159.00 - CAF #9900144636.

34. Resolution authorizing an award of contract, by and between the County of Camden (Department of Public Safety, Office of Emergency Management) and Lenco Industries Inc., (GSA Contract GS-07F-0390M) for the purchase of an armored vehicle, in an amount not to exceed \$289,865.00 – CAF #9900144623.

35. Resolution authorizing Change Order No. 7 (Bid A-3), by and between the County of Camden (Department of Public Safety) and C.H. Schwertner and Son, Inc., for miscellaneous revisions and changes associated with the completion of construction and modifications to the Camden County Youth Center, in the amount of \$48,696.00 – CAF #9900144626.

36. Resolution authorizing the submission of a Federal Congressional Earmark Grant Application, by the County of Camden (Department of Public Safety) for the provision of a Countywide Inter-Operability System.

37. Resolution reappointing the Camden County Correctional Facility Warden.

Resolution 38 was adopted upon motion made by Freeholder Rodriguez with a second by Freeholder Cream and on roll call:

38. Resolution authorizing personnel actions requested by or on behalf of Freeholder Ripa.

AYE: CREAM, GRECO, NASH, RODRIGUEZ, CAPPELLI

NAY: RIPA

ABSENT: MCDONNELL

Resolutions 39 through 50 were adopted upon motion made by Freeholder Greco with a second by Freeholder Rodriguez and on roll call, all Freeholders present voted aye.

39. Resolution authorizing the transfer in the amount of \$676,789.03 from the Area Plan '07 Program Income in the 2007 Budget, to Area Plan '08 Program Income (\$176,789.03) and Area Plan '09 Program Income (\$500,000.00).

40. Resolution authorizing an award of contract, pursuant to a Publicly Advertised Request For Proposals, by and between the County of Camden (Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Senior & Disabled Services) and WB&A Market Research for the provision of a needs assessment, in an amount not to exceed \$44,725.00 – CAF #9900144584.

41. Resolution authorizing an award of contract, by and between the County of Camden (Department of Health & Human Services) and Hewlett Packard (State Contract WSCA #A70262), for the purchase of personal computer tablets and notebooks, in an amount not to exceed \$31,572.00 – CAF #9900144629.

42. Resolution authorizing award of contracts, pursuant to a publicly advertised Request For Proposals, by and between the County of Camden (Department of Health & Human Services) and various approved vendors, for the provision of services to at-risk youth and their families, in an amount not to exceed \$51,950.00 - CAF #'s 9900144117, 9900144118.

43. Resolution amending Resolution #59, adopted 12/19/2008 to correct a vendor fee and level of service.

44. Resolution amending Resolution #47, adopted 1/22/2009 to correct the omission of the required 50/50 match, made up of cash and/or in-kind services.

45. Resolution authorizing a Lease Agreement and an award of contract, by and between the County of Camden (YES Facility) and The Center for Family Services for the provision of 7 family court beds in an amount not to exceed \$345,436.00 – CAF #9900144580 for \$57,572.66. Balance of funding is contingent upon the availability and appropriation of funds in the 2009 temporary and/or permanent budgets.

46. Resolution authorizing a Shared Services Agreement, by and between the County of Camden (Department of Health & Human Services) and Haddon Township for the provision of Joint Municipal Animal Control.

47. Resolution authorizing the submission of a Federal Congressional Earmark Grant application, by the County of Camden (Department of Health & Human Services) for the provision of funds for the YES Facility Project.

48. Resolution reappointing members to the Camden County Advisory Council on Aging.

49. Resolution authorizing personnel actions requested by or on behalf of Freeholder Rodriguez.

50. Resolution authorizing an amendment to the 2009 temporary budget.

Resolution 51 was adopted upon motion made by Freeholder Greco with a second by Freeholder Rodriguez and on roll call:

51. Resolution authorizing an award of contract (3rd yr. option), pursuant to a publicly advertised Request For Proposals, by and between the County of Camden and Connor Strong Insurances Services (formerly known as Commerce Bank Insurance Services) for agent/brokerage services for Health Maintenance Organizations.

AYE: CREAM, GRECO, RIPA, RODRIGUEZ, CAPPELLI

ABSTAIN: NASH

ABSENT: MCDONNELL

Resolutions 52 through 56 were adopted upon motion made by Freeholder Cream with a second by Freeholder Greco and on roll call, all Freeholders present voted aye.

52. Resolution authorizing an award of contract for Electric Generation Supply Services (Bid A-8) for the South Jersey Power Cooperative.

53. Resolution authorizing the County of Camden to purchase via various State Contracts, serums, toxoids, influenza and DHSS vaccines for various Camden County Departments.

54. Resolution authorizing an award of contract, by and between the County of Camden (Superintendent of Elections) and Election Support and Services, Inc. for the certification of voting machines and election day support in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 - CAF #9900144428 for \$30,000.00. Balance of funding is contingent upon the availability and appropriation of funds in the 2009 temporary and/or permanent budgets.

55. Resolution amending a Lease Agreement, by and between the County of Camden (Board of Elections) and Strategic Cooper River Realty, LLC to extend the term of the Lease through February 28, 2012.

56. Resolution authorizing a change in custodian for the Change Fund for the Office of the County Clerk, Camden County Store in Cherry Hill.

Resolution 57 was adopted upon motion made by Freeholder Greco with a second by Freeholder Rodriguez and on roll call:

57. Resolution imposing a six-month moratorium on enforcement of Camden County Policy and Procedure No. 3.0 – Residency Requirement.

AYE: CREAM, GRECO, NASH, RODRIGUEZ, CAPPELLI

NAY: RIPA

ABSENT: MCDONNELL

Resolutions 58 through 73 were adopted upon motion made by Freeholder Greco with a second by Freeholder Cream and on roll call all Freeholders present voted aye.

58. Resolution authorizing an Agreement, by and between the County of Camden and Council #10, for the purposes of advancement of labor/management activities, employee training support meetings, guest speakers, and employee health and wellness activities, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 – CAF#9900144706 for \$5,000.00. Balance of funds is contingent upon the availability and appropriation of funds in the 2009 temporary and/or permanent budgets.

59. Resolution of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Camden, New Jersey providing the County's consent to (I) the issuance by the Camden County Improvement Authority of its "County Guaranteed Lease Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series A of 2009" in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$15,500,000, for the purpose of refunding certain prior Bonds of the Authority issued to advance refund certain other prior Bonds of the Authority issued to finance the acquisition, construction, renovation or installation of certain capital projects of the County and (II) certain other matters related thereto and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:37A-56(1).

60. Resolution of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Camden, New Jersey providing the County's consent to (I) the issuance by the Camden County Improvement Authority of its "Revenue Bond (VOADV Property Inc. Project) Series 2009" in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$5,500,000 and (II) certain other matters related thereto and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:37A-56 and pursuant to Section 147(F) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, all in connection with the financing by the Authority of the acquisition, demolition, construction and equipping of a Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Facility, located in the City of Camden, in the County of Camden, New Jersey.

61. Resolution of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Camden, New Jersey providing the County's consent to (I) certain matters relating to the partial defeasance of the outstanding principal amount of the Camden County Improvement Authority County-Guaranteed (limited) Revenue Bonds (Camden Academy Charter High School Project) Series 2003 and (II) various modifications to the 2003 Lease and Sublease Agreements executed in connection with such bonds; and authorizing the execution and delivery of an Escrow Deposit Agreement and an Amendment to Bond Agreement and Consent and Waiver Agreement; and authorizing other necessary actions in connection therewith.

62. Resolution authorizing an award of contract, by and between the County of Camden (Division of Information Technology & Telecommunications) and Dell/ASAP Software (State Contract A-72727) for the provision of an Enterprise Licensing Pricing Agreement for a term of two (2) years at the annual cost of \$60,439.88 - CAF #9900144437 for \$15,109.97. Balance of funding is contingent upon the availability and appropriation of funds in the 2009, 2010, and 2011 temporary and/or permanent budgets.

63. Resolution authorizing an award of contract (Bid A-4), by and between the County of Camden (Office of Archives & Records Management) and F.W. Dutton, Inc., D/B/A PMI Technologies for the provision of records inventory services, in an amount not to exceed \$76,358.40 - CAF #9900144540.

64. Resolution authorizing an award of contract, by and between the County of Camden (Office of Archives & Records Management) and Dell/ASAP Software (State Contract A-72727) for the provision of an e-mail document management system, in an amount not to exceed \$71,907.55 - CAF #'s 9900144638, 9900144640, 9900144641.

65. Resolution authorizing an award of contract, by and between the County of Camden (Office of Archives & Records Management) and Dell/ASAP Software (State Contract A-72727) for the provision of maintenance and support for the electronic document management system for the County of Camden and the Township of Berlin, in an amount not to exceed \$22,500.00 - CAF #9900144639.

66. Resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application, by the County of Camden (Office of Archives & Records Management) to the New Jersey Division of Archives & Records Management for the 2009-2010 PARIS Grant, in an amount not to exceed \$1,510,000.00.

67. Resolution authorizing Agreements for the sale of alcoholic beverages by authorized non-profit organizations or vendors at various events.

68. Resolution amending the contract, by and between the County of Camden (One Stop) and Goodwill Industries of Southern New Jersey, Resolution #106, adopted June 19, 2008 to decrease the level of service for the provision of High Volume Community Work Experience Program (CWEP) Services.

69. Resolution amending the contract, by and between the County of Camden (One Stop) and Camden County Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO), Resolution #106, adopted June 19, 2008 to increase the level of service for the provision of Community Work Experience Program (CWEP) Services with Job Skills Training in an amount not to exceed \$138,240.00 – CAF #9900144553.

70. Resolution rescinding Resolution #51, adopted January 5, 2009.

71. Resolution approving a list of pre-qualified vendors, pursuant to a publicly advertised request For Proposals, to provide court reporting services to the Office of County Counsel.

72. Resolution approving a list of pre-qualified private investigators, pursuant to a publicly advertised Request For Proposals, to provide services for various County Offices and Agencies.

73. Resolution authorizing a settlement in the matter entitled Lindy Barnett v. Camden County Parks Department, et al.

Resolution 74 was adopted upon motion made by Freeholder Greco with a second by Freeholder Rodriguez and on roll call:

74. Resolution authorizing a settlement in the matter entitled Davis v. Camden County.

AYE: CREAM, GRECO, NASH, RODRIGUEZ, CAPPELLI
NAY: RIPA
ABSENT: MCDONNELL

Resolutions 75 through 80 were adopted upon motion made by Freeholder Cream with a second by Freeholder Greco and on roll call, all Freeholders present voted aye.

75. Resolution authorizing a settlement in the matter entitled Grohs v. Camden County.

76. Resolution authorizing General/Auto Liability settlements.

77. Resolution authorizing Workers Compensation settlements.

78. Resolution reappointing the Camden County Superintendent of Veterans Interment.

79. Resolution appointing a member to the Camden County Improvement Authority.

80. Resolution authorizing personnel actions requested by or on behalf of Freeholder Director Cappelli.

Resolution 81 – Freeholder Nash made a motion but there was no second – Resolution fails.

81. Resolution acknowledging personnel actions requested by or on behalf of constitutional or statutory offices. No Motion - Fails

The Director said that concludes the Resolutions. He then opened the meeting to the public for discussion on any issues.

Karl Walko, President of Council #10 addressed the Freeholders and said we had a group of people from the County Negotiating Committee, some shop stewards and other union representatives. He said I am here about the negotiations. They hear from the people that they represent that it is time to get going. It is the word that is coming to him and the word that he is passing along to the Board. He anticipates a meeting with the administrator to try to get this thing jump started. I am looking forward to that meeting because I think it is time to get this thing jump started. He said they have been out for over a year – there have been issues out there but we worked through a number of issues, we have been helpful in a number of ways, including the changes in health insurance last year but we need to get going. Mr. Walko said I read the paper, I have been to meetings, I understand what's going on both here in Camden County and what's going on nationally and in the State of New Jersey but that doesn't mean we should stop. We still have to plunge forward and get this thing done. If we need a fight, I think even a fight is better now than later on. I am asking the Board to stay focused on this thing and let's get it going.

Denise Wolfson, 204 West Cedar Avenue, Oaklyn, addressed the Freeholders. Ms. Wolfson said I don't want to take up too much of anyone's time but what prompted me to come to this meeting tonight is what she received in the mail – The Camden County Pride. She said she takes a lot of pride in it since she is a Camden County resident and was born in Camden. She said she considers herself pretty well schooled in the area and what goes on. Ms. Wolfson said she thought she knew a lot until she became unemployed in November. She said when she sought to call for an appointment – the calls go to Burlington County. She doesn't know if anyone else was aware of it. Because she is unemployed, she has no

outside calling on her phone. She had to get a phone card to call unemployment, which I got through to once but got cut off. It took two phone cards being on hold, getting cut off and getting back on, it took three weeks before she decided to go to the Mt. Ephraim Avenue Office, which is where she went back in the day when she was unemployed because you physically went to unemployment. She went in person because she could not get through by phone. She said there was quite a long line along the wall. She went to the information booth where there was no long line and explained my plight that I couldn't get through on the phones and need to speak with someone. The information person told her she could get in line to use the phone bank on the wall. It was a large line of many people – some of them unsavory looking. She noticed that the lines were so tight, there was no privacy. She said she could deal with that. What she couldn't deal with was that the office of unemployment was mentioned in *The Pride*, the One Call Stop Center was in it. That is what prompted her to attend the Freeholder meeting. She said *The Pride* is all about the Health Conference. You are all concerned about health and health issues especially when most people, including myself, have no health insurance. She said when she was directed to use the phone banks; there wasn't a can of Lysol spray within a hundred miles. The Acme does a better job of Lysol wipes on my cart when I go into the store. She said these are things that she learned – as a room mother for 9 years at Oaklyn Elementary School – not always a popular room mother because I would come to the different board meetings of the School Board and speak out on certain issues. She said Oaklyn Elementary School at that time had no running hot water in the bathroom, no towels, no disinfectant, and no soap for the kids. These are things she said she learned about in Kindergarten – we clean up, we wash up. That phone bank offered me a scale of diseases, some which probably haven't been discovered yet. To have this pamphlet come out on Health and have the unemployment thing at the same time in the same pamphlet really got me going. She said she called one of the offices and spoke with a lovely young woman. She said the people you employ are fabulous because they field most of the questions from people like me because she said she has called Freeholder Rodriguez and Freeholder Ripa and also Governor Corzine, Rob Andrews regarding several issues. Ms. Wolfson said she has been unemployed and has been taking care of a developmentally disabled man since April 1st when we went to the DDD in Collingswood to apply for an aide and that was April 1st. Today, we are well into February and this man still doesn't have an aide.

Director Cappelli advised Ms. Wolfson that she will have an opportunity again to speak. Everyone is given a five minute time limit. The Director said we will look into that issue with the phones on Mt. Ephraim Avenue.

Carl Harper of Lawnside addressed the Freeholders and said he didn't get the opportunity to thank you for the Martin Luther King Freedom Award. He said thank you and I am honored.

Director Cappelli thanked Mr. Harper and said we are honored to have you here.

SCO Charles Smith, Sr., 3111 Waldorf Avenue, Camden and is a guard from Riverfront Prison addressed the Freeholders. Mr. Smith said you want to propose closing Riverfront Prison. Let me remind you that a couple of months ago Governor Corzine had a proposal for one out of three prisons – Riverfront, CRAF and Southern State. CRAF is asbestos infested; the ceiling caved on the inmates. He said as we speak, the inmates have a lawsuit against the State of New Jersey. Chicken wire in the basement to catch chunks of ceiling and one other problem that he heard that is serious and it means so much to everybody in here, I am sure, because if you were working at CRAF and you found out it didn't have a sprinkler system that is a big red flag. With regard to Southern State, Mr. Smith said there are a bunch of trailers, dilapidated, falling apart.

Everyday they have carpenters in there fixing the floors, people falling through the floors. Southern State is dilapidated just as badly as CRAF. Mr. Smith said Riverfront, the third newest prison in the State, is immaculate, clean, no mildew, no rust, no problems. No lawsuits because ceilings fell on them – no asbestos. At the same time, we do have a sprinkler system. Mr. Smith said his point is for everyone in the room and especially to the people that work at Riverfront, Officers, Staff, my point is why are you closing Riverfront State Prison at this time? Mr. Smith said he has one more thing to say, I didn't want to bring the race card in – CRAF and Southern State have a majority of white prisoners. He said the people at Riverfront State Prison feel railroaded. We are a predominantly minority prison. Mr. Smith said he has a 1986 Cadillac and my car is not going to make it to Southern State Prison, not Bayside either. You are saying we make all this money – we don't make that much money. Not to be traveling for an hour and a half and risk getting into an accident both ways driving everyday after busting our tails watching inmates for 8 hours – tired going home – have to leave extra early to beat the traffic just to get in. We do this every day. Here is the problem that I have – maybe if the Governor would have told us, people at Riverfront get ready to close, we are going to build a prison for you first before we just kick you out the front door. That didn't happen and at the same time, our Governor is skipping a lot of channels and the Commission to get people shipped out. The first 40 just left last week and another wave was supposed to be coming up February 28th but the PBA got it changed to March 9th. I don't know what your motives are, yes I do know what your motives are but I think you should rethink what you are doing because not only are you inconveniencing the taxpayers of Camden but you are inconveniencing us and you are endangering the community because as far as I know, right now there are a bunch of State inmates in the County overflowing and you want to close Riverfront right now. Does that make sense to you? Thousands from each County – Camden, Mercer, Burlington. Before I leave this meeting – rethink what you are doing – we don't deserve this, nobody deserves to get uprooted in that fashion. It hurts, we feel railroaded and at the same time, nobody likes to be taken advantage of the way you are doing. It is not a good feeling. If it were happening to you, you would be up here protesting too.

Gregory Kelly, 9 Winterberry Lane, Willingboro, addressed the Freeholders regarding Resolution #60 under Director Cappelli. He said half way through that Resolution, it says, "in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$5 million and certain other matters related thereto". Mr. Kelly asked if that \$5 million has a million dollar connection with the Financing Authority of acquisition, demolition, construction and equipment of a residential substance treatment center, located in the City of Camden and County of Camden, New Jersey. What exactly is that, he asked.

Director Cappelli said that is a VOA operated facility to enhance existing programs in Camden. What they are doing is purchasing a property a couple doors down from where they already exist. It is a residential treatment facility. The Camden County Improvement Authority is issuing bonds to finance the facility. Mr. Kelly asked if that facility is in the City of Camden. The Director said that it is currently in the City of Camden. Mr. Kelly said, "It is a substance abuse center"? The Director said that is correct, it is operated by Volunteers of America. VOA has been in the City for many years. Mr. Kelly said the reason why I particularly came to this meeting what the officer said about the PBA is I am the President of PBA Local 105 that represents State Corrections Officers, Parole, and Juvenile Justice Officers. The people of Riverfront, the problem that we have and I will direct this to you, Freeholder Nash, because I read your comments in the paper about how you feel about us. The problem that we had was that when this whole thing came up about Riverfront and why Riverfront is so important, was there a cost analysis done? What it would cost to tear that prison down. Was there an analysis done as to what the taxpayers will pay for that. He said that prison cost \$31 million to build. What would be the cost to build the same facility right

now? He said a lot of money, I believe. Mr. Kelly said the biggest thing I say during this time of economic crisis which everybody refers to – these economic times, why would you tear down a perfectly good building? Who's going to pay for that cost? The other thing about it is the U.S. Marshal talking about win-win situation where he had sheriff's officers for this project – he was grateful to everybody. Where is the gratefulness to these officers at Riverfront State Prison for a job they do every day? They do tutoring in that City to keep some young people off the streets and out of jail. They deal with the Churches, they deal with the hungry. These officers, residents, to get that job had to live in Camden. Now you are saying, we don't care where you go, we want that prison gone. Beside that, I have seen the papers about the crime, the Attorney General's website said crime has gone up. When the economy is bad, crime goes up. It doesn't go down. Public safety should not be compromised because somebody wants that property to look over at Philadelphia and build a condo on it or whatever else you are trying to build. Maybe you can't understand but these officers put their lives on the line every single day for the citizens of the State of New Jersey and particularly Camden. We walk the toughest beat in the world, ladies and gentleman. All we ask for this whole Riverfront thing was that none of us were consulted, no unions, no talks and it seemed when the talks were held, it wasn't held in Camden, it was held in Bellmawr. The one thing I have to say is the affect that this will cause families, health providers issues – these officers are there for the citizens of Camden – whenever they need them, our officers have answered that call. I think the way they are doing this whole thing, a cost analysis – two assembly people that are not even from Camden County – Addiego and Rutter even said it doesn't make sense.

Officer Jackson of the Camden County Department of Corrections addressed the Freeholders with regard to Resolution #57 – the residency requirement. Mr. Jackson said I have been a corrections officer in Camden County for 21 years now. I was forced to move back into the County after residing in Burlington County for 20 of my 21 years for the Department of Corrections. My problem is why is it that some people were forced to reside in Camden County and others aren't. He said he submitted a letter to one of the Freeholders last year in regards to his wife being unemployed, she was laid off after working for GMAC for 21 years. He said he had no funds to put a down payment on a new house, and still not able to sell my house in Mt. Laurel. My question is, who is and who is not required to live in Camden County? Thank you.

Jim Nasir, of Millville, New Jersey and identified himself as President of the New Jersey Law Enforcement Supervisors Association who represents the rank of sergeants. With regard to closing the Riverfront State Prison, there are a couple of comments made by members of this Board that we find completely inappropriate. For example, I feel that it was inappropriate and insensitive for the statement that was made that somebody was going to be happy when the bulldozers drive through, Mr. Nash.

The Director interjected and said this is how we are going to operate tonight. We are going to have one speaker at a time, there are not going to be people interjecting, throwing out comments while somebody is speaking. We ask that this be a respectful proceeding. Thank you.

Mr. Nasir said you should show a little empathy for these guys due to the hardship that is going to be put upon these employees and the staff members of that prison as well as the family members of the inmates that are housed at that prison. He said the average officer and supervisors are going to be traveling at least an hour to continue to work. That is more gas costs, child care costs. No consideration was ever given, no regret, no anything towards the staff at that prison. With regard to the ad, he said, he was one of the co-authors of that

ad. He said you made a comment last month where you are going to sue us. Mr. Nash, stop posturing. You know you can't sue us; it was a public awareness ad. All we did was to let the people know; there is nothing in that ad that is false. If you really don't think that inmates are being released early to make room to move these inmates out then you better do your homework. We did. There are some lawsuits that are going to be filed but we are going to file them. We are going to do everything we can to stop that jail from moving. I also didn't care for the comment you made that the best view of the Philadelphia Skyline was from an inmate's cell. If that is your motivation for closing that, I'll buy the paint and paint the window so they can't see out. There is absolutely nothing wrong with that prison. As the gentleman said earlier, we have other jails that have major building problems. All you had to do was to discuss maybe putting another jail somewhere else in Camden County and that maybe we should talk about that but it doesn't have to be in Center City Camden because of the redevelopment plan. That was all you had to say but to come out and say that we are trying to scare people and we are lying, and you're going to sue us – we deal with politicians every day – not normally at the County level, we deal with them at the State level from the Governor down. I personally talked to the Governor –he told me he wants that deal but just because he wants it closed doesn't mean it's going to close. That is all I got to say.

Dino Stevens of Camden and identified himself as working at Riverfront State Prison addressed the Freeholder Board. Mr. Stevens said he lived in Camden all his life and went to Camden schools. Mr. Stevens said when I go to church on Sunday morning, I am greeted by dope users coming out of the recovery place – I don't hear you complaining about that. When I go to the Public Library, it is right next to the County Jail – I didn't hear anyone argue about that. I am not even talking about the inconvenience you are causing me, I am talking about the degradation – you are sitting up there and you're telling all of us out here that we are fools. I hate to say it but that is the way it is. You got all our kids with all these dopers, bail bondsmen and all these things in the City of Camden. When Pennsauken wouldn't take the recycling plant, they dumped it in Camden. Every time something happens you dump it in Camden. Now, we have one little building sitting in Camden that is doing just fine and you are going to tell those of us that pay taxes in Camden; you are going to tell us we are fools. You did nothing for us. To you, I say, you are right, we are fools because we voted you in and we will remember.

Jeffrey Smith, President of the New Jersey Superior Officers Association addressed the Freeholder Board and said he doesn't live in Camden County but lives in Gloucester County. Mr. Smith said he represents employees that work at Riverfront State Prison. The Director asked Mr. Smith what town he lived in and Mr. Smith responded, Pitman, New Jersey. Mr. Smith said he has a question regarding Resolution #60. Mr. Smith said it indicates that the County is funding a bond for \$5,500,000 to acquire, demolish, construct...the Director stopped him and interjected that the County is not funding a bond. The Director said the bonds are being issued by the Camden County Improvement Authority. The Improvement Authority is just a conduit for the issuance of the bonds. We are not funding the bonds. Mr. Smith asked if the VOA is going to be paying that bond. Director Cappelli responded that the VOA will pay the bond, he is correct. Mr. Smith then asked if that facility is going to be expanded. Are they looking to house more individuals than the present facility, he asked. The Director responded said the programs are in Camden and they are to enhance the existing programs. Mr. Smith asked if they were adding additional space. The Director said he didn't know the answer to that question.

Mr. Smith said he would like to echo another comment that President Kelly made. He said he thinks a lot of the anger and frustration you are feeling tonight is based on the fact that

there are all these employees that are going to be affected by any plans that are made with regard to Riverfront State Prison and the only official communication from the State or the County to the bargaining units that represent the employees is that there is a reduced crime rate and there is a lack of inmates to fill these beds. He said that is a slap in the face for the people who work for the Department of Corrections. We are smarter than that – we understand the value of the Real Estate and if that is the case, be honest with the people and tell us if that is what it's about and let us work with the officials to get to a solution. The people that work there and the people that represent the people that work there, we are smarter than that, we understand the logistics and the economics behind the property on the Riverfront so don't insult our intelligence and tell us there is a reduced crime rate and there are not enough inmates to fill that facility because we know better.

Lou Hall, identified himself as an Executive Board member of the New Jersey Superior Officers Association. He said we represent Lieutenants in all State law enforcement which is nine agencies with the exception of the State Police. The Director asked for Mr. Hall's place of residence. Mr. Hall said he lives in Vineland, New Jersey. Mr. Hall said we represent the Lieutenants that work at Riverfront Prison. He said he is not going to be redundant but he said he has one point he would like to make. Unlike other constituents, I walked in the shoes that they walked in; I am retired however I still work for the Union. Where they are limited in things that they can say in fear of retribution, it can't be held over my head. Everybody that is here that doesn't work for the prison system needs to know this because what the State doesn't want to get out is this – everyone is saying that there are beds for these inmates. There are no beds for these inmates. The inmates that are moving out at a big rate are because they have reduced the qualifications for parole. They have released over 700 inmates that are not qualified to be released and put them on the street. He said that is true because he said he personally sees it every day. If you don't have a problem with people who don't belong on the street coming out then you really need to take a good look at that. Mr. Smith said 95 percent of the employees of that prison are residents of Camden. The thing that gets me is that you don't have any respect for the 400 to 600 people that work there which are corrections officers, plus support staff and you are just going to displace them all for the sake of money. You are all taxpayers also. When you realize that the County jails can't take them any more and the prisons are full, and you will have to float a bond for probably \$800 million to build the next prison, it is just insane. I can't believe you aren't smarter than that to see what's going on all for the sake of that money on that river property. You all should be ashamed of yourself.

Scott Derby, President of the New Jersey Law Enforcement Commanding Officers Association addressed the Freeholders and said he is not a resident of Camden County. He said he lives in Fairton, New Jersey, Western Cumberland County. Mr. Derby said as his colleague, Lou Hall, mentioned, I am not here to reiterate what's already been mentioned this evening. He said except for the fervent support of not only himself, his executive board but all our membership throughout the State of New Jersey for our brothers and sisters in blue that work at Riverfront State Prison. As was mentioned earlier, we understand that the property has value but in the absence of dialogue we haven't had meaningful dialogue between me or our members with either Camden County or the City of Camden or the Corzine Administration. In the absence of that, we find that the only way to communicate is to advertise through the news media. We will continue to do so until we have that meaningful dialogue over that property. We will continue, we will be here every Freeholder Meeting and the ads will continue. With that said, the invitation is out; we are willing to meet with you, with the Corzine Administration with respect to that property. Until that dialogue actually ensues in some substantial form, we are going to continue the course that we have already embarked on. Thank you.

Officer DeJesus identified himself as being from Riverfront State Prison addressed the Freeholders. The Director asked where Mr. DeJesus resides. He responded Sicklerville, New Jersey. Mr. DeJesus said he wanted to talk about letting these inmates go and lowering the standards of parole. He said I see it every single day, I work at Riverfront State Prison and that is what is going on. They are not telling you that – we understand that you guys want the property; we understand that, we are not stupid, we know. There are ways of doing things though like the gentleman said – build another facility somewhere. Let's do this the proper way. The ball is rolling, inmates are out there in other facilities, yes, we may be shipping 10 to different facilities in the State of New Jersey but don't know where they are fitting at because they are all loaded. We are letting six go a day being paroled, every single day. They are hitting the streets, people they are in your community. We are not letting them all go to Camden – they are going to every single County in the State of New Jersey – your home. I don't mean to bring Philadelphia up because it's sad what's going on over there. These officers are getting shot over there. Everybody here sees the news and you hear that guy shouldn't have been on the street in the first place, he should have been locked up and the key thrown away. That is exactly what is happening right here and is going to happen in New Jersey. It's going to happen because we are letting these guys go without doing the time. We are letting baby killers go, we are letting child molesters go, we are letting these people go into the streets, into your neighborhoods. You want to build a park, a condo here, that is beautiful but there is a way of doing things. The ball is rolling, officers are leaving Riverfront Prison. I am not talking about where officers have to go – how far they have to travel – that's fine. That is a hardship, we will deal with it. Thank God in today's economy, we have jobs. The truth of the matter is, if we are letting these inmates go, that's how they are doing it. These half-way houses in Camden, we are the ones. When there is a situation in one of those half-way houses, they call Riverfront State Prison. We go, we pick them up, and we bring them back to jail. That's how it works. If you get rid of Riverfront, there's not another prison in sight for an hour to come pick these guys up when there is a situation in one of these half-way houses in Camden. We are the ones that go over there, pick them up and bring them back to Riverfront. He said that is how we take care of business every single day. It is not about us officers as far as us traveling, we'll handle that. Please just don't lie to us. Don't lie to the people; let them know what's going on. Let them know that you are letting them out, get a town watch in your neighborhood because we are letting them out. Be honest to the people; let them know what's going on. We are here, we see it, and we see that we are letting them go. "Go ahead guys, good luck, don't come back, and be good now you hear" – it doesn't work like that. There is a way of doing things, we understand you want the property, we understand that – let's do it the right way. There is no other prison, in prison talk we are central because you have your north prisons, your have your south prisons and then you have Camden right here in the middle, we are considered central. You get rid of Camden, what do you have, you have nothing, you have a big gap.

James Collins, Chief at Yardville Garden State Department of Corrections addressed the Freeholders. Director Cappelli asked Mr. Collins for his residence. Mr. Collins responded that he resides in Falsington, Pennsylvania. Mr. Collins said tomorrow I am going to be attending a funeral in Philadelphia of another cop killed by a parolee, by somebody who has done time and got out too early. I have been to five of them this year and cried at each one of them. The facility in Camden is a good facility and probably the soundest facility that we have in the State right now. We have to keep these people off the street and that is the truth. Also, as Camden is rebuilding right now and I hope it is because I would like to see it be what it used to be, right now by having Riverfront there, you have a 400 to 500 person law enforcement presence in the area, which has reduced crime in the area. You get rid of that you will increase crime in that area. Thank you for your time.

Dino Stevens of Camden once again addressed the Freeholders. This is what I'm saying, I'm watching everybody and I know you have a position to take. Don't sell us out like this. The people voted you in – and I don't know if you noticed it but something very dramatic happened last year but we got rid of old politics. Old politics is gone. I am here to tell you that as smugly as you are looking at me now, I will be out there beating those drums to make people know what you look like when you look at us like we're nothing. We came here to express our opinions and we have been voting for you for years just because of your names. Don't be that happy with your name!

Jerome Cannon identified himself as a product of Ms. Cream, went to Camden High. He said he has been reading in the newspapers and the one thing he wanted to present to you is that there are approximately 1200 inmates that are in the care of the County facility. There just happens to be the same number as the inmates would fit inside Riverfront State Prison. The cost to those counties for about 38 inmates is \$1.5 million over their budget for what the state pays. It is actually a cost-saving measure for them to leave them in the counties. The counties bear those costs which mean that Camden County bears some of that cost. The wise thing to actually do is for the County to say, take your inmates back. The Camden County residents don't have to absorb it in their taxes and that is what you are here for to make sure that the taxpayer doesn't have to pay money that he should not be paying. Thank you.

Greg Kelly once again addressed the Freeholders. Mr. Kelly said you have to understand that when you look at these officers faces, they are the same faces their kids look at – it is not personal against you, it really isn't. We tried to reach out to you guys to say talk with us. When you didn't we went on our advertising campaign. The same way you would like to be treated, these officers would like to be treated the same way and that is with respect. That is all we want is respect. I am not mad at any of you, I am not mad at the businessmen. We are going to follow that money – something isn't right. You didn't turn it down when the economy in the country was in good shape; it is in the worst shape and now you want to tear it down. Taxpayers are going to be paying for that and that is not right. As the Chief said, I have been to a lot of funerals this year, of my officers, police officers in the State of New Jersey. We protect you – you think about that and let me tell you one thing, even if you don't and somebody breaks through your window and get in your bedroom and you turn around and they say you know what, he was let out on parole, then that's what you think about.

Kylene Milligan of Camden and identified herself as an officer at Riverfront State Prison. She said I would like to make a few points because her fellow officers did a great job in reiterating what is going on and what we are not happy about. Ms. Milligan said she wants to see Camden revitalized. I live in Camden, I was born there. She said when you tear down Riverfront State Prison don't let it be another project, another hope for Camden residents and we don't get access to it. The Cramer Hill project was supposed to revitalize Camden, it never took place. The City residents were complaining about it taking place and it didn't. It is still an open lot with debris. Don't make us move and it is still sitting there or don't bring in a business there that we don't have access to. She heard Rutgers wants to buy it; they want to put a parking lot or a Lacrosse Team. We, Camden residents, won't have access to that. If you are going to do something with it, just like we said, it is not about us moving, it's about you not giving us the information about us moving. We don't want to have inmates on the street that is why we chose that profession. I have a Masters Degree. It's not like I am doing this just for the money. There are plenty of things I can do with a Masters Degree. This is something that you have to want to do – we go to work every day – you have to want to go there and risk your life. We are around killers, murderers, child

molesters, everybody. Those same people that broke into your house, into your cars, we protect you from them. Don't just think about the money going to Camden because I want it to go to Camden but just think about everybody that it is going to impact.

Jesse Jackson of Blackwood addressed the Freeholders. He said I work at Riverfront Prison and I deal with the City of Camden. I would like to go over what the officers do to give back to the community of Camden. We do a mentoring program but also when the City was burning down they called us and we responded. When you had all those fires on mischief night, we were the officers that volunteered our time without pay to walk the City of Camden. Even I came from Blackwood to help out the City. I went to some of the schools and talked to some of the students. Every Christmas we do a food drive for the City of Camden so we can help out the needy. When the concerts down the street from us were having problems, we have a red phone and center. When we have problems, we call the City of Camden PD and say we need help – Camden PD called us and said we need help and we are the officers that responded down to those concerts when they couldn't handle it, free of charge, volunteering our own time and our own services for the City of Camden. It is not like we are just coming to work and leaving. When we have functions, we have functions in the City of Camden because we want to contribute to the businesses; we don't just want to make our money and then take it elsewhere out in Cherry Hill. We bring a lot to the City of Camden. Every single year, we donate money and volunteer to Dooley House for the needy children there. I know that it doesn't matter to you, Mr. Nash, because you want to give the keys to somebody to run the bulldozer and have the bulldozer run it down. But that's okay because I hope you're standing in front of that bulldozer when they do!

Director Cappelli said let's make this clear, we are not going to tolerate comments like that, Sir. Coming from someone in law enforcement is shocking!

Mr. Jackson said he was upset because he is sitting up there like he doesn't even care about the people that's up here talking. I have been looking at you the whole time and it's like you can care less. At least the rest of these Board members at least they care of what the people are saying. You, don't even care what the people are saying. It makes me upset. At least, please show some type of consideration and care about the officers and what we go through every single day.

Freeholder Nash responded and said to Mr. Jackson, "I think you are misreading that, I have heard every word that every person has said and I'll comment when everybody is finished". Mr. Jackson said it doesn't look like you care to me.

Jule Taylor of Camden and identified herself as working at Riverfront State Prison addressed the Freeholders. She said there is a show that is out and it is called, "Lie to Me" and it reads your face and your actions. All we are asking is that you talk to us and not talk at us and be honest with us. Let us know what's going on – this is our lives that are going on. We don't know the game that you're playing; we don't know what's going on behind the scenes, who deals were made with, why they were made or how they were made. All we are asking is give us just a little bit of common courtesy – a little bit of respect that's all we ask because I am sure you would all want the same thing in return. I know that you might be looking at us like we don't know the half of it. Tell us, fill us in. It bothers me when a person says this little print right here you won't understand it so we are going to move passed it. Don't assume that I wouldn't understand it. If you can't explain it then tell me that, but don't insult me and tell me that I wouldn't understand it. Please just talk to us and let us know exactly what's going on – don't just move us out. That is what is being done to us. We are being booted out! It seems the more we talk the faster you are trying to get us out of there.

You are afraid that we are going to hit the right note and get a stay on this thing or turn this thing around. The more we make noise; you are calling somebody saying get them out of there fast. So, I guess tomorrow another 40 of us will be transferred.

Alejandro Santiago of Camden addressed the Freeholders. He said he has a few questions. The first is why a meeting like this isn't held in a Camden School, like Camden High or Woodrow Wilson, where you can talk to the Camden residents, the ones that live around the prison. It has to be held out where seniors can't get any transportation? The long time residents of Camden, the ones that know half of the officers, the ones that greet them on their way to work. I own property not far from the prison – it is about the last one that doesn't have a drug stand in front of it. What do you want to do put a park there – so that my kids can say, "Oh, we have a beautiful park" that my kids can't go play in. We already have the Aquarium that we can't afford to go to, Campbell's field we can't afford to get tickets to – now what are you going to put there – a Camden community park because they want to see Philadelphia. It's cheaper to take the train to see Philly than it will be to go to your park. Why can't one of these meetings be held where the actual people of Camden, that reside there, that pay the taxes there, that voted you into office can walk to like Pyne Poynt, a few blocks from the Prison. Is there an answer?

Director Cappelli responded and said we move our meetings around from month to month. Every November our meeting is in Camden City. Last year, it was at the Centerville Library. The Director said we set the schedule of our meetings at the first meeting every year in January. Every month we change the location of the meeting. Every year, however, there is a meeting in Camden City.

Mr. Santiago said you are trying to tear down a prison in North Camden but you are holding all these meetings outside of North Camden. That doesn't make any sense. The voices that you are supposed to be hearing are not the people in Lawnside, Bellmawr, it is supposed to be the people where the damage is being done. At least hear their voice. I pull up here and see Lexus cars and good looking cars. I drove up here in a bucket and a lot of people don't have a car to drive. Why can't you hold these meetings in Camden? I am not here to represent the officers – it is a blessing that they are there. It is a blessing that the prison is there. The only view that I have is knowing that I can look out my window and not see a drug dealer. When I look out my daughter's bedroom window in the back of the house, I see a drug center. At least when I look out the front window where my kids can play, I don't care if there is razor wire, I don't care if there is a guard in the tower, but guess what, it is not a drug dealer. It's not a drive-by shooting and now you want to put a park there or make it look beautiful so they could see Philadelphia?

Brad Hawkins of 1456 Kaighns Avenue, Camden addressed the Freeholder Board. He said he is a product of Camden all his life and he promised Freeholder Cream he wouldn't embarrass her. Mr. Hawkins said she was my Principal when I graduated Camden High. Every day they are paroling inmates by a large number. Primarily, probably just to close Riverfront to get something moving. Let me tell you a story. There was an inmate that was paroled on October 28, 2008. On December 13, 2008, he shot me. He almost took me away from my little boy and girl based on decisions that people make like you.

Miguel Garcia of 1115 N. 23rd Street, Camden, identified himself as a corrections officers at Riverfront State Prison for the past eight years, addressed the Freeholders. To touch on something that Officer Jackson said earlier about you sitting there looking like you don't basically care about what's going on or what's going to happen. According to what I always heard, the closing of Riverfront State Prison is for the better of the City of Camden. I would

like to say something to all of you here who have not lived in an inner city your entire life. He said I came from Jersey City all the way down to Camden from one City to another. Let me explain something to you about what crime is. All of you that don't know what it's like out there.

Crime is cancer. Crime is Aids – it is something that you might be able to control but you are never going to stop it and it takes people like us to keep it under control. When you turn your back on it, it will consume you, it will consume your body, and it will consume everything. It will consume the City. The closing of Riverfront State Prison, all it's going to do is handicap the City of Camden even more. As we speak, the County jail in Camden is overcrowded. There are 4 or 5 or 6 men to a 2-man cell. That is creating unhealthy conditions for other inmates, for other officers – anybody in that environment right now. Right now, with the closing of Riverfront State Prison, you are going to put out another 700, 800 or 900 people out on the street that shouldn't be out there. Of course, it is not going to bother you at all. As I said, crime is cancer, crime is Aides, if you don't stop it, it spreads and outside of Camden what do you have. You have Pennsauken, Merchantville, Oaklyn, Collingswood and Lawnside. Where do you think they are going to go – they aren't going to stay in Camden. They are going to go somewhere else. Until you people up there, walk a mile in our shoes and see what we do and what we deal with and understand the animals that can possibly live next door to you that will take a two-year old little girl and make a woman out of her against her own will or take an 80 year old woman and beat her half to death for her \$350.00 Social Security Check, you have no right to tell us what we are worth.

Officer Herberto Maldonado, 1131-58 Colorado Road, Camden addressed the Freeholders. He said I didn't come in a suit and tie, I don't have a degree. I am an average Joe that made something of me coming from the City of Camden. You can see that you can make something of yourself if you work hard. He said he has younger nephews, cousins that look up to me and think I can get a job at the prison. If I just graduate high school and take the test, I work hard; I can get a job there. You are taking that dream away. You don't realize what you are doing. There are a lot of kids in our City that don't have a lot of options to go to and that is something that they do look forward to. Camden Fire Department is not hiring – Camden Police Department is not hiring. Corrections are hiring, it gives them something to hope for – they have residential hiring preference. Everyone is always picking on Camden this, Camden that. Who are half of the people coming into Camden buying the drugs? It isn't our people from Camden. He said do you know what we find around the prison (knives, syringes), do you know who is going to come to the park there. He referred to it being called a "Punto" in Spanish which he explained means a drug center. That's what it is going to become. They are promising jobs to the people of Camden – the residential Camden. Do you want to know what the residential Camden is – Rutgers College students. That is technically the residential Camden. That is going to get the jobs. It isn't going to be Julio or Raheed. Excuse me if I am being rude but I am trying to sound like the average person. I want to look like the average person and I want to sound like the average person. It should have been provided for the average person to speak in Camden. I don't know where the Courier Post is getting these people from Camden, telling them we are not really doing anything for Camden. How about Mischief Nights, I had to work with corrections officers walking the beat with Camden P.D. They thanked us and told us they didn't have enough officers out here. Every time something happens at one of these concerts, who helps out. Operation Safe Haven wasn't the guys you gave the awards to tonight, it wasn't them who kept the crowd under control. They are not here helping us out. They don't care because they get taken care of all the time. We are supposed to be the little brothers – the troopers are not here helping us out. Where are they? Who helps them every time they need help? They are scared to come into our institution without their weapon. We are being lied to – no one is giving us real answers. Try to meet us halfway. Give us some respect; we do put our life on the line. Maybe some of you don't understand because you didn't grow up in the type

of neighborhoods that we had but there are a lot of people that feel safe that that place is there. Some of us have relatives that get locked up. Some of us have relatives that have a fiancé in there; it is easy for them to visit. It is easy for them to go to. These County Jails are getting flooded. It isn't just Camden County Jail; it is a lot of county jails being flooded. There has to be a better resolution of this – there has to be more information available to all of us and there has to be better way that this can be resolved.

Charles Smith, Sr., Senior Corrections Officer, Riverfront State Prison, of 3111 Waldorf Avenue, Camden once again addressed the Freeholders. As you know the State is trying to close Riverfront. We are losing workers that live right in the City and we just elected President Obama and his main initiative is to keep work for everybody. Camden is in the top 5 in crime in the nation. We need work in that City but you take this Riverfront State Prison and take work away from 400 employees and staff members, officers, people in personnel, nurses, ITI's, a number of people and a lot of them do live in the City of Camden. Maybe we can call President Obama and get him to do a walk-through at Riverfront State Prison, do a walk-through of CRAF and Southern State and let's see how he would react to the closing of Riverfront Prison and your idea of letting that happen. I have nothing else to say.

Seeing no other members from the public wishing to speak, Freeholder Ripa made a motion to close the public portion with a second by Freeholder Rodriguez and all Freeholders present voted aye.

The Director then called upon the Freeholders for their comments.

Freeholder Cream said to the Mayor and Council of Lawnside and the residents and people who have visited tonight, we would like to thank you for your hospitality. Freeholder Cream also thanked the people who addressed us tonight and gave us their feelings about their concerns. We have listened to you carefully and we respect what you are saying.

Freeholder Nash said first to everyone who came here today, I do appreciate your participation. I know a lot of people took time out of their night to come here to address this Freeholder Board. I am going to tell you of how I came to the position that I support the closure of the Riverfront Prison and why I was angry by the flyers that were placed at the Cherry Hill Mall and on the New Jersey Transit Buses that ran through Cherry Hill Township and other suburban communities. You probably are not going to like what I am going to tell you but I am going to tell you how I came to this point. Freeholder Nash said about five years ago, I have been a Freeholder for a long time, being elected seven times and represented the City of Camden and the other 36 municipalities for 18 years now. My passion as part of being a Freeholder is trying to revitalize the City of Camden because you drive to that prison every day, you go through North Camden, and you see what goes on in those streets. This is the fifth poorest city in the country. There is more per capita poverty than anywhere else in the United States. People should not be living in conditions that they live in Camden City anywhere in the United States, probably not the entire world. I have many friends who are hard working people who do have jobs many of whom live in North Camden. I have spent Christmas in North Camden and I am disgusted by the conditions of that community and I know all of you who go through that area are as disgusted as I am by how some people are forced to live with very few houses even having open windows with gates on there to protect them. He said I went to the residents of North Camden, through their two organizations under the umbrella organization known as Save Our Waterfront and they represent a host of churches, schools and community groups that represent the citizens of that community. Mr. Nash said he said to them "what is it that you would like to see in the community to try to turn things around" and they told me that they would like to

see the prison removed from the waterfront because in their view, 1) they never wanted the prison to be built there in the first place – that prison was forced down their throats by the State of New Jersey for a \$3 million to \$5 million bail-out because the State had nowhere to put it. The State doesn't build prisons of that size anymore. Secondly, they said that they believe that the Riverfront Prison prevents the expansion of the commercial district or the expansion of Rutgers University to the north side of the bridge because Rutgers would not build next to a prison. According to the school, they won't put dormitories next to a State Prison. I asked them to call a meeting of the residents and 75 people showed up at a community meeting in North Camden. Mothers, fathers, children, students across the board, and I asked them whether or not they wanted the prison to be removed as part of a redevelopment plan and they said they wanted to the number, everyone wanted the prison to be removed from the waterfront. In order to replace that prison, they wanted to have the opportunity to do the redevelopment plan. They did not want the County, the State or others to come in to make a plan for their community. They wanted the community to make the plan and tell the State, County and others what they wanted in their community. Freeholder Nash said I felt that was a fair statement, especially after what has happened with some of these other plans, like in Cramer Hill and other areas of Camden. They worked for about a year and they came up with a plan that included the removal of the Riverfront Prison. They wanted a field that they could put in its place that the children of North Camden can play in – not the one that is blocked out that is currently on the Southside of the bridge. That is what the residents of North Camden wanted. He said he then went to the Mayor, the Council, the Legislators, Rutgers, the Camden Police Chief, the CEO, the School Board, the Churches and the parents and they all wanted the prison to be removed. Freeholder Nash said my responsibility is to the residents of that City, but I also respect your jobs. I used to work at Rykers Island, I know how tough your job is and I greatly respect what you do. You have the toughest job in government, I get it. I can tell you that the residents of this community believe in their hearts and they have expressed it to the number, they do not want the prison to be on that location. It is not a personal attack on you, although I am sure you feel it is but they view it as the way that their community can turn things around and they can't get it done with a prison on its most valuable property – they can't. That's what the residents feel and that's why I support it. That's number one.

Freeholder Nash went on to say the flyer that was put out was outrageous. I think from any objective standard, it was a scare tactic, it was an outrage and clearly to put it out in suburban communities was something that was designed to scare the suburban population. I find it to be repulsive and an outrage. That is my opinion. I disagree with you, I know where you are coming from, I know you think that this is attacking you personally; I am not expecting you to agree with me. I am telling you what prompted my support for the removal of that prison. It is a state decision. I am not going to defer to the State because every member of this Board supports that decision. He said I support the Governor in his decision to remove the prison for that reason because I support the community.

Freeholder Ripa thanked the residents of Lawnside for allowing us to use this facility for our meeting. I would like to thank all of those who came to the meeting and those who expressed their frustration at the closing of the prison and hopefully all the residents and the employees of the prison will be satisfied. Thank you all for coming and as usual I would like to thank all the County employees for all their hard work which they do each and every day. Thank you.

Freeholder Rodriguez thanked everyone for their time and comments and for expressing their concerns. She said she would also like to thank the residents of Lawnside, Mayor and Council.

Freeholder Greco thanked everyone for coming.

Director Cappelli said I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the public who spoke tonight. What you said concerning the practice of parole in the releasing of inmates is something that we will look into it. That is a concern with the general public; however, I think Freeholder Nash eloquently expressed the view of this entire Board as to why we support the closing of the prison. The only thing I will add to that is that when the prison was built, it was a wrong and we are trying to right a wrong. Unfortunately, there are people involved who work at that prison, but when it was built that prison was a slap in the face to the City of Camden. It has nothing to do with you. I know you do an outstanding job and we respect the job you do. It is a wrong that need to be righted for the citizens of Camden City. The Director also thanked the employees of Camden County for the hard work they do day in and day out.

There being no further business, the Director asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Freeholder Ripa made a motion to adjourn with a second by Freeholder Nash at 9:10 p.m. and all Freeholders present voted aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Szczesniewski
Clerk of the Board