

Meeting Minutes of Special Board Meeting of March 27th, 2023

A telephone/zoom conference meeting of the Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties was held on the above date. Chairperson Ramos was in the chair.

The Executive Director read the following statement:

Pursuant to Section #5, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, notice of this special meeting has been provided to the public by mailing the notice of this special virtual meeting for March 27, 2023 at 4PM to the Star Ledger, the Home News Tribune and the offices of the Municipal Clerks of the 11 member municipalities of the Joint Meeting and to the City Clerk of the City of Elizabeth and the County Clerks' Office of Essex and Union all on March 23, 2023.

On roll call the following board members were present: Messrs. Leneus, Petrosky, Florio Dafis, Rutherford, Haskins and Ramos; Ms. Romano and Ms. Fox and Ms. Bonanno. Absent: Ms. Frederic.

Also, in attendance were Director Johnson, Mr. Kelly of the Joint Meeting, E. Webster, Esq., and J. Noble, Esq. of Inglesino, Webster, Wyciskala & Taylor, LLC; J. Kantor, Esq., R. Rivera Esq., & J. Burke Esq., of Antonelli Kantor Rivera.

On motion by Mr. Petrosky, seconded by Ms. Romano the Board entered into close session at 4:04 pm. On Roll call: ayes, Messrs. Petrosky, Florio, Haskins, Rutherford, Dafis, Leneus and Ramos; Ms. Fox, Ms. Romano and Ms. Bonanno; nays, none.

In accordance with Section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permitting the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances and as the Joint Meeting is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist as the general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is Employees/Personnel and it is anticipated at this time that this subject will be made public at a later date.

On motion by Mr. Petrosky, seconded by Mr. Ramos, the Board exited closed session and opened the meeting back up to the public at 4:32 pm. On Roll call: ayes, Messrs. Petrosky, Florio, Haskins, Rutherford, Leneus, Dafis and Ramos; Ms. Fox, Ms. Romano and Ms. Bonanno; nays, none.

On motion by Mr. Florio, seconded by Mr. Leneus, Resolution (R-036/23) Terminating Contract and Awarding a Contract to Connelly Foley for General Counsel was adopted. On Roll call: ayes, Messrs. Leneus, Petrosky, Florio, Haskins, Rutherford, Dafis and Ramos; Ms. Fox, Ms. Bonanno and Ms. Romano; nays, none.

On motion by Ms. Bonanno, seconded by Ms. Fox, Resolution (R-037/23) Awarding a Contract to Mandelbaum Barrett P.C. for Special Legal Counsel Services was adopted. On Roll call: ayes, Messrs. Leneus, Petrosky, Florio, Haskins, Rutherford, Dafis and Ramos; Ms. Fox, Ms. Bonanno and Ms. Romano; nays, none.

Resolution (R-038/23) was tabled.

On motion by Ms. Romano, seconded Mr. Dafis, Resolution (R-039/23) Terminating Contract awarded to Mercury, LLC for Strategic Media Relations was adopted. On Roll call: ayes, Messrs. Petrosky, Florio, Haskins, Rutherford, Dafis and Ramos; Ms. Fox, Ms. Romano and Ms. Bonanno; nay, Mr. Leneus.

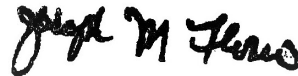
The Chairperson asked if there was anyone wishing to address the Board on any Joint Meeting matter with a five minute limit. On motion to open public comments by Ms. Fox, seconded by Ms. Rutherford. Hearing no one, the Public Comment Session was declared closed. On motion to close public comment by Mr. Rutherford, seconded by Mr. Dafis. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

There was no unfinished business.

Under new business, next meeting is April 20, 2023.

There being no further business on motion by Mr. Rutherford, seconded by Ms. Romano, the special meeting then adjourned at 4:39 pm to meet again on April 20, 2023 unless called earlier by the Chair. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph M. Florio". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Joseph M. Florio
Secretary