



COUNTY OF MERCER
McDADE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
640 SOUTH BROAD STREET
P.O. BOX 8068
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08650-0068
(609) 989-6584
Fax: (609) 392-0488

JERLENE H. WORTHY, CLERK
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

EBONY WITHERSPOON
DEPUTY CLERK

MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SPECIAL FORMAL MEETING OF MAY 9, 2023

MINUTES

Chair Walter called the Special Formal Meeting to order at 6:03 PM

The following members of the Board answered the Roll Call of the Clerk to the Board:

Present – Commissioners Cimino, Frisby, Lewis, McLaughlin, Melker, Stokes and Walter

The Clerk to the Board read the Invocation.

Chair Walter led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Salute to the Flag.

SUNSHINE LAW

It was announced that in accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Public Meetings Law, notice of this Meeting has been mailed to the Trenton Times, the Trentonian, and the Princeton Packet newspapers as well as having been posted in the Administration Building and the Courthouse at least 48 hours in advance of this meeting.

Chair Walter announced that the purpose of this Special Formal Meeting was for the Board to take action on the following proposed Resolution and public hearing:

RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14); AND,

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2023 MERCER COUNTY BUDGET OF THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY;

Chair Walter opened the Public Hearing on the Resolution to Exceed the County Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

Chair Walter asked if there were any questions or comments.

Mike McKitish, a resident of Robbinsville addressed the Board. He expressed his thoughts as a County taxpayer and spoke about the Boards' budgetary process which he observed over the last several weeks. Mr. McKitish was most disappointed in the 4.5-million-dollar loss that occurred and that there may not be any mitigation covered by an insurance agency. None the less he applauded the Board for their due diligence while undertaking such an arduous budget process. Mr. McKitish noted that the Board did the best they could due to the unfortunate circumstances of such a substantial monetary loss. He expressed his thoughts on the introduced budget and felt it was not a fiscally responsible budget; especially cutting the summer intern program for youth in Mercer County. Mr. McKitish remarked that the Board made the right decisions for Mercer County and understood the thought process used by Dr. Sharon Sharp, Temporary Chief Financial Officer.

Commissioner Cimino moved, **"To Close the Public Hearing"**, seconded by Commissioner Frisby.

VOTE ON MOTION

Ayes - 7. Nays - 0. Abstain - 0. Absent -0.

Ayes – Commissioners Cimino, Frisby, Lewis, McLaughlin, Melker, Stokes and Walter

Commissioner Frisby offered the following Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Stokes:

NO. 2023-345 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

ADOPTED:

Ayes - 7. Nays - 0. Abstain - 0. Absent -0.

Ayes – Commissioners Cimino, Frisby, Lewis, McLaughlin, Melker, Stokes and Walter

2023 MERCER COUNTY BUDGET

Chair Walter announced the opening of the Public Hearing on the 2023 Mercer County Budget of the County of Mercer, New Jersey;

Chair Walter asked if there were any questions or comments.

Mr. McKitish, wished to address the Board for a second time regarding the 2023 Mercer County Budget. Mr. McKitish was hopeful that his concerns would be taken into consideration regarding the previous election and the numerous missteps that occurred that day. He discussed a Board of Elections meeting that he attended and expressed his disappointment that the Board would not change the time of their meetings to evenings allowing for larger constituent participation. Mr. McKitish urged the Commissioner Board to look into the incompetence that has taken place within the Board of Elections before investing anymore taxpayer dollars into their budget. He was still looking for one of the four departments that handles the election process to stand up and take responsibility for what happened on election day and felt that until that occurred would not have confidence in the voting process.

Commissioner Cimino moved, “**To Recess the Public Hearing**”, seconded by Commissioner Frisby.

VOTE ON MOTION

Ayes - 7. Nays - 0. Abstain - 0. Absent -0.

Ayes – Commissioners Cimino, Frisby, Lewis, McLaughlin, Melker, Stokes and Walter

At this time, Chair Walter invited the members of the public to comment on any item listed on the agenda.

There were no comments.

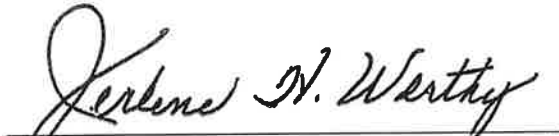
A Motion to Adjourn the Special Formal Meeting was offered by Commissioner Frisby, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, which motion was adopted by the unanimous vote of the members of the Board.

VOTE ON MOTION

Ayes- 7. Nays - 0. Abstain - 0. Absent - 0.

Present – Commissioners Cimino, Frisby, Lewis, McLaughlin, Melker, Stokes and Walter

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:18 PM



Jerlene H. Worthy, Clerk to the Board