

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS
COUNTY OF ESSEX

#53

RESOLUTION NO. _____
PROPOSED BY: FREEHOLDER RICHARDSON
SUBJECT:

AUTHORITY FOR RESOLUTION N.J.S.A. 40:41A-38(q)
AUTHORITY FOR ACTION C.C.E. 2-29 (B)

IN MEMORIAM
ELTON EUGENE HILL

WHEREAS, Elton Eugene Hill of Newark, New Jersey, is being remembered upon his passing from this life on Saturday, July 11, 2020, at the age of 89; and

WHEREAS, Elton Eugene Hill was born on January 5, 1931, in Dublin Georgia to James Thomas and Minnie Evelyn Hill; and

WHEREAS, Elton Eugene Hill was educated in the Newark public school system, graduating from Newark Vocational School and later earning a Bachelor of Science degree from Rutgers University, a Masters of Public Administration from Fairleigh Dickinson University and various other certifications in Public Administration from the prestigious Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He also served as a veteran of the United States Air Force; and

WHEREAS, Elton Eugene Hill was employed as a Draftsman and owned a carpentry business. He was later employed by the City of Newark Housing Authority. His interest in politics peaked and he joined a group that came together and hosted the Black and Puerto Rican Convention; and

WHEREAS, in 1966, Elton Eugene Hill's childhood friend Kenneth A. Gibson ran for mayor and he organized the Kenneth A. Gibson Civic Association. He developed into an astute and renowned political strategist and after the campaign in 1970, when Kenneth Gibson was successfully elected Mayor of Newark, he was sought out by candidates seeking election for state and national election due to his ability to organize, motivate, and build teams for successful campaigns, which ultimately earned him the title of "The Swami" among the insiders of the Basement Meeting Group. He was appointed to Assistant Business Administrator by Mayor Gibson and City of Newark Business Administrator, where he served until his retirement in 1986; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Elton Eugene Hill successfully renegotiated the lease contract with the NY/NJ Port Authority for Newark Airport, resulting in a fairer return for the citizens of Newark. He was appointed by Governor Brendan Byrne to serve on the New Jersey State Real Estate Commission which supported the authorization for developers to build new communities in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, as a Commissioner of the North Jersey District Water Commission, Elton Eugene Hill oversaw the construction of the Monksville Reservoir - a 2.7-million-dollar project located on Long Pond Ironworks State Park. His title is engraved in granite at this historical site; and

WHEREAS, as a member of Metropolitan Baptist, Elton Eugene Hill served the Board of Trustees and served as Assistant Church Treasurer. After his retirement, he was asked by the late pastor Dr. B.F. Johnson to assume the responsibility of Construction Manager for building the new edifice. He became part of the organization of the B.F. Johnson Foundation Corporation, which became the impetus for renting out the fellowship hall as a charitable and civic outreach program, while leasing classrooms to the Newark Preschool Council to generate funds for the church's benefit. As president of the foundation, he served until his health prohibited; and

WHEREAS, Elton Eugene Hill was active with the New Jersey Grand Lodge of Prince Hall Mason, Grand Inspector General of the New Jersey Council of Deliberation and Sardonias Consistory, a member of the Forum of Black Member Public Administrators and the NAACP, the Newark Chamber of Commerce and many other civic and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, Elton Eugene Hill was predeceased by his parents, James and Minnie, and two brothers, James, Jr., and Sylvester. He leaves to cherish the memory of his earthly sojourn his devoted wife, Mary, children: Carol, Daryl (Brenda), Denise Watt (Eugene), Kareem, Glaless Calloway (Peter), Steve Michael (Wanakee), and Hubert; grandchildren Ketra Shelton (Chance), Keith Cartwright (Apple), Kenya, Michael II, Daryl Jr. (Amy), Nikol, Eugene II (Dominique), Daniel, Marcus (Kawai), Dana Brooks, Charlene, Anj, Daniel Watt; precious great-grandchildren; two loving nieces: Marianne Treadway (Craig) and Joyce (Eugene), one sister-in-law: Kay Hill; two brothers-in-law: Andrew McNeil and Dennis Smith (Sheree); cousins: JoAnn Gibson Banks and Cheryl Gibson Fuller; and a host of loving relatives and cherished friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders hereby celebrates the life and mourns the passing of Elton Eugene Hill and offers their heartfelt condolences to his family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Elton Eugene Hill.

Approved as to form and legality _____

Michael J. P... ..
Freeholder Counsel

RECORD OF VOTE (X=Vote N.V.=Abstention ABS=Absent)

Moved by Freeholder _____
Second by Freeholder _____

Freeholder	Yes	No	N.V.	ABS	Freeholder	Yes	No.	N.V.	ABS
COOPER					POMARES				
GRAHAM					RICHARDSON, V.P.	✓			
JOHNSON					SEBOLD				
LUCIANO									
MERCADO					GILL, PRES.				

It is hereby certified that the foregoing Resolution was () adopted () defeated () tabled by roll call vote at a _____ meeting of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Essex, New Jersey held on _____

Is Publication Required () Yes () No

Date Published _____

Brendan W. Gill, President