

MARCH 26, 2014

The monthly work meeting of the Hope Township Committee convened at 7:00 P.M. at the Hope Township Municipal Building with the following members present: Mayor Timothy McDonough, Deputy Mayor George Beatty, and Committeeman John Koonz. Also present was the Municipal Clerk, Mary Pat Quinn.

Under the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act", adequate notice of the meeting had been provided by publishing notice in The Express Times and The Star Gazette and by posting notices in the Hope Post Office and on the Township bulletin boards all on February 14, 2014 and February 21, 2014.

Open Bids for Cell Tower on Township Property

No bids were received for a "Land Lease for the Construction of a Self-Supporting Wireless Telecommunications Monopole and Ancillary Wireless Telephone Support Equipment and Structures in Accordance with the Communications Site Lease Agreement". The Clerk was directed to readvertise for bids to be opened at the April 23, 2014 meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Resolution #14-25, Late Budget Introduction

The following Resolution was adopted on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

RESOLUTION #14-25

WHEREAS, under provisions of N.J.S.A.40A:4-5, a municipality shall introduce the Local Municipal Budget no later than March 14 of the fiscal year; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of Hope has delayed the introduction of the 2014 Municipal Budget past the statutory deadline; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, Warren County, New Jersey, that the Township of Hope hereby petitions the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to allow a delayed introduction of the 2014 Hope Township Municipal Budget; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, 101 South Broad Street, P.O. Box 803, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0803.

Resolution #14-26, Special Items of Revenue

The following Resolution was adopted on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

RESOLUTION #14-26

WHEREAS, the 2014 Local Municipal Budget was introduced on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2014;  
and,

WHEREAS, during the fiscal year 2014 the Township of Hope has been allocated a state grant for various programs in the amount of \$310,173.00.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that petition be made herewith to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2014 Local Municipal Budget include a special item of revenue under the heading of "Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services-Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:"

Clean Communities Program	\$ 6,384.00
Clean Communities Program-Prior Year Unapprop.	946.00
Recycling Tonnage Grant-Prior Year Unapprop.	1,377.00
NJ DOT Grant - Honey Run Road	261,500.00
NJ DOT Grant - Moravian Grange-Final Reimb.	29,519.00
Municipal Alliance Grant-DEDR 2013 Hope	1,713.00
Municipal Alliance Grant-DEDR 2014/15 Hope/White	<u>8,734.00</u>
	\$ <u>310,173.00</u>

Resolution #14-27, Deferred School Tax

The following Resolution was adopted on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty.  
Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

RESOLUTION #14-27

WHEREAS, the provisions of C.63, P.L.1991 (The Supplemental Municipal Property Tax Relief Act) under Section 13 required municipalities whose school tax year is on a fiscal basis to defer twenty-five (25) per cent of the maximum allowable amount and anticipate it into their budget over a four (4) year period beginning in budget year 1991, and ending in budget year 1994 as additional Municipal surplus to offset the local property tax levy for local purposes; and,

WHEREAS, the provisions of C.63, P.L.1991 were amended in calendar year 1993 that changed the mandatory provision of the use of this deferred school tax to a permissive provision; and,

WHEREAS, the revised provisions for electing to utilize the deferred school tax require the governing body to make such election by introduction of the municipal budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope that election be made to defer school taxes as of December 31, 2013, and be reflected in the Annual Financial Statement for the year 2013 as follows:

	<u>FY 13-14 SCHOOL LEVY</u>	<u>MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF DEFER TAX</u>
Local School Tax	\$3,656,213.00	\$1,828,106.50
TOTAL MAXIMUM DEFER TAX 12/31/13		1,828,106.50
LESS – DEFER TAX 12/31/12		1,791,744.00
INCREASE IN MAXIMUM DEFER TAX ALLOWABLE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2013		\$36,362.50
AMOUNT DEFERRED AT 12/31/13		\$36,362.50

Resolution #14-28, Introduce 2014 Local Municipal Budget

The following Resolution was adopted on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

RESOLUTION-#14-28

WHEREAS, the Township of Hope is holding a meeting on March 26, 2014, for the purpose of introducing the 2014 Municipal Budget and conducting other matters; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, Warren County, New Jersey, that the Township of Hope hereby petitions the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2014 Local Municipal Budget be introduced and approved on March 26, 2014.

2014 HOPE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Surplus anticipated general revenues	\$ 170,000.00
Total Miscellaneous revenue	729,758.00
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	53,000.00
Local Property Taxes	<u>639,203.00</u>
Total General Revenues	<u>\$1,591,961.00</u>
Total Operations	\$1,085,075.00
Debt Service	82,200.00
Capital Improvements	291,019.00
Reserve for Delinquent Taxes	<u>133,667.00</u>
Total 2014 Municipal Budget	<u>\$1,591,961.00</u>
Municipal Tax Rate (Estimated)	\$0.24796

#### Status of Letter from Warren County Engineer, re: Millbrook Rd./Walnut St.

The Township Committee received a response to its request to make Millbrook Road one-way in a northerly direction. Barth Johnson, P.E., Assistant County Engineer, sent a letter dated March 18, 2014 to advise that the County prefers to make sign changes in the area to direct large vehicles away from this road section as opposed to designating Millbrook as a one-way road. The County Public Works Department will be repairing the stone wall that was previously damaged by a large truck.

#### Status of Non-Domesticated Animals on Small, Residential Properties

Beatty advised that he met earlier in the day with the Zoning Officer and the Animal Control Officer. They drafted a proposal, which the Zoning Officer will type up and forward to the Township Committee for its review and consideration.

#### Status of Moravian Distillery Rehabilitation Project – Landscape Plan

The Township Engineer's office assisted with the design of the landscaping. The wrought iron railing is under review by the N.J. State Historic Preservation Office.

#### Status of White Township/Municipal Court of North Warren at Hope

No change in status. The matter is still under advisement by the Administrative Office of the Courts.

#### Miscellaneous

The Township Committee will seek quotes for painting the interior of the Municipal Building/Municipal Court. One quotation was received from Silver Lake Painting and Wallpapering.

A motion was made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty to authorize the Mayor to prepare and execute a letter in support of an application of the Hope Environmental Commission for a 2014 Open Space Stewardship Grant. The project will consist of restoring the 1.2 mile walking trail at Swayze Mill Park. The grant request is \$1,500.00. In-kind services will be provided by the Hope DPW, Sunrise Farms and approximately 150 hours of other volunteer labor. Committee polled: Beatty-yes; Koonz-yes; McDonough-yes.

McDonough reported that he met with representatives of Jersey Central Power and Light regarding some tree trimming in the Silver Lake area of the Township. A forester will look in the area to identify potential problems. Three trees were already removed from Ridgeway Avenue earlier in the day.

Koonz reported that the well drilling done by Fred Stephans resulted in an 800 foot hole that did not produce a sufficient flow of water for his antique shop, the Burgdorff Real Estate office and the Hope Community Center. The matter is under advisement by Stephans.

Public

There were no questions or comments from the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M. on a motion made by Koonz, seconded by Beatty. The motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Pat Quinn  
Municipal Clerk